

ON THE HIGH-ENERGY ICECUBE NEUTRINOS

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Perspectives in astroparticle physics
from high energy neutrinos

Naples, June 26, 2017

NEW PHYSICS

effects on the energy spectrum

effects on the angular distribution

effects on the flavor composition

WHY DO WE CARE ABOUT FLAVOR?

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It carries information about the mechanism of production...

WHY DO WE CARE ABOUT FLAVOR?

It carries information about the mechanism of production...

...but also about the way neutrinos propagate from the sources to the detector

Exotic physics could produce deviations from the standard expectations

STANDARD COSMIC PROPAGATION

Credit: DESY

flavor ratios at source:

$$(\alpha_{e,S} : \alpha_{\mu,S} : \alpha_{\tau,S})$$

flavor ratios at Earth:

$$(\alpha_{e,\oplus} : \alpha_{\mu,\oplus} : \alpha_{\tau,\oplus})$$

$$\{\alpha_{j,\oplus}\} = \sum_{k,i} |U_{jk}|^2 |U_{ik}|^2 \{\alpha_{i,S}\}$$

$$\sum_k |U_{jk}|^2 |U_{ik}|^2 \approx (P_{TBM})_{ji} = \frac{1}{18} \begin{pmatrix} 10 & 4 & 4 \\ 4 & 7 & 7 \\ 4 & 7 & 7 \end{pmatrix}$$

FLAVOR RATIOS AT SOURCE AND EARTH

$$\pi^\pm \rightarrow \mu^\pm + \nu_\mu (\bar{\nu}_\mu)$$



$$e^\pm + \nu_e (\bar{\nu}_e) + \bar{\nu}_\mu (\nu_\mu)$$

$$\pi^\pm \rightarrow \mu^\pm + \nu_\mu (\bar{\nu}_\mu)$$



$$e^\pm + \nu_e (\bar{\nu}_e) + \bar{\nu}_\mu (\nu_\mu)$$

$$\pi^\pm \rightarrow \mu^\pm + \nu \times \bar{\nu}_\mu$$



$$e^\pm + \nu_e (\bar{\nu}_e) + \bar{\nu}_\mu (\nu_\mu)$$

Pion sources $(\nu_e : \nu_\mu : \nu_\tau)_S = (1 : 2 : 0) \Rightarrow (\nu_e : \nu_\mu : \nu_\tau)_\oplus = (1 : 1 : 1)$

Muon damped sources $(\nu_e : \nu_\mu : \nu_\tau)_S = (0 : 1 : 0) \Rightarrow (\nu_e : \nu_\mu : \nu_\tau)_\oplus = (4 : 7 : 7)$

Muon sources $(\nu_e : \nu_\mu : \nu_\tau)_S = (1 : 1 : 0) \Rightarrow (\nu_e : \nu_\mu : \nu_\tau)_\oplus = (14 : 11 : 11)$

Neutron sources $(\nu_e : \nu_\mu : \nu_\tau)_S = (1 : 0 : 0) \Rightarrow (\nu_e : \nu_\mu : \nu_\tau)_\oplus = (5 : 2 : 2)$

$$n \rightarrow p + e^- + \bar{\nu}_e$$

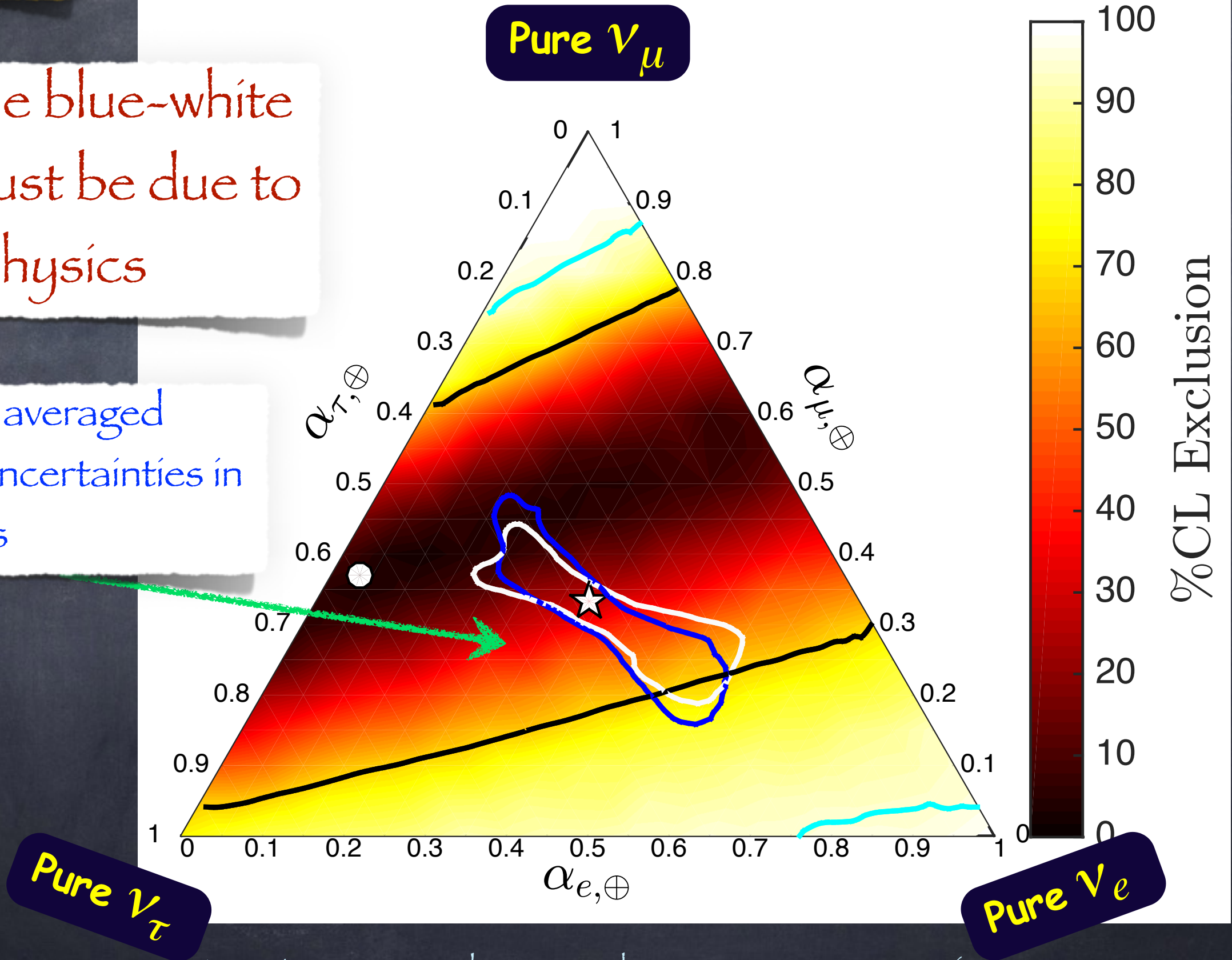
FLAVOR TRIANGLES

4-YEAR DATA

$$E_{\text{dep}} = [10 \text{ TeV}, 10 \text{ PeV}]$$

If outside the blue-white regions, it must be due to new physics

Flavor ratios with averaged oscillations and uncertainties in mixing parameters

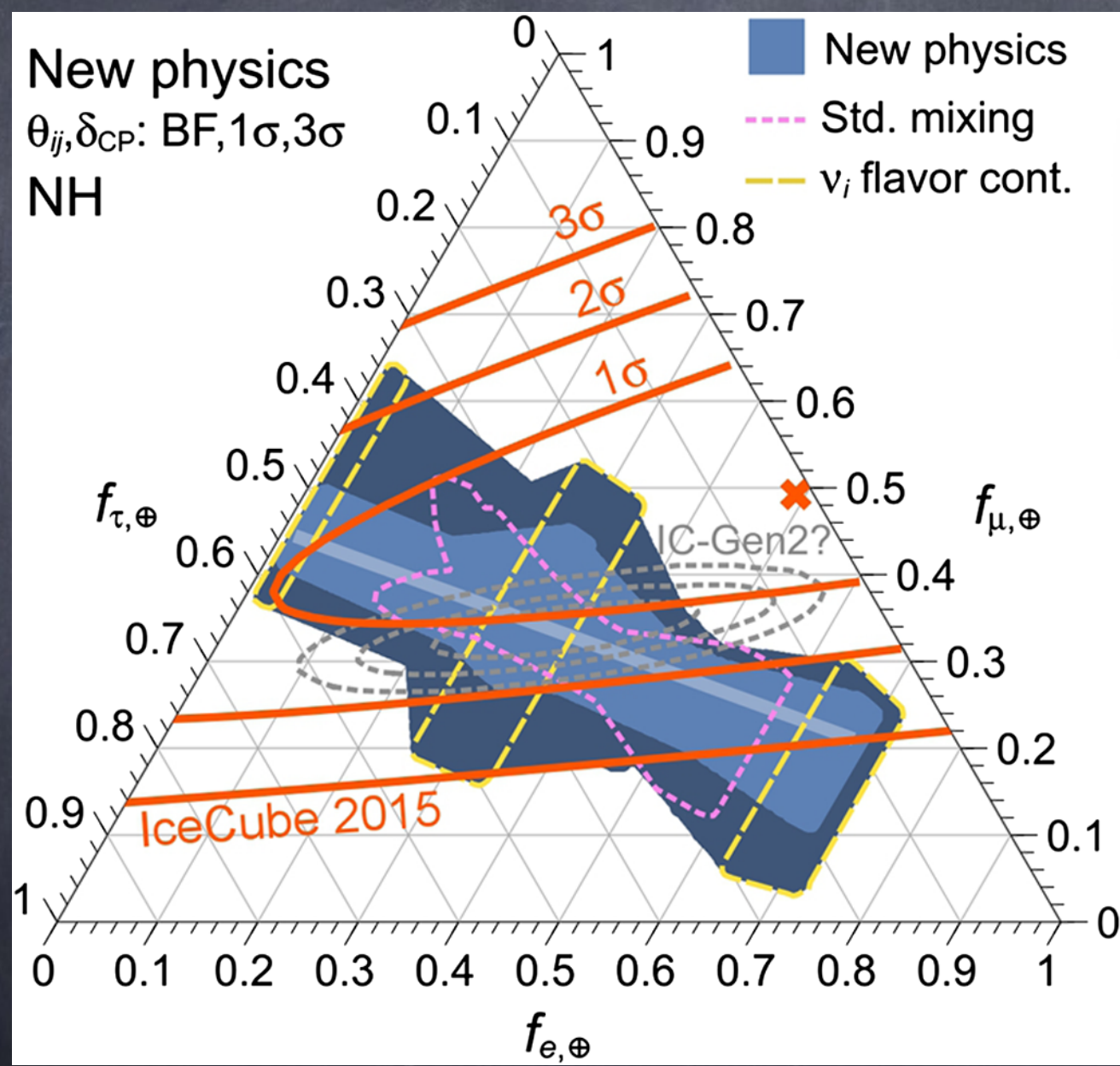


A. C. Vincent, SPR and O. Mena, Phys. Rev. D94:023009, 2016

On the high-energy IceCube neutrinos

INCOHERENT MIXTURE OF MASS EIGENSTATES

neutrino decays, pseudo-Dirac neutrinos...
or neutrino secret interactions, Planck-scale decoherence



Yet, the flavor triangle is not fully covered!

More extreme scenarios are required!

M. Bustamante, J. F. Beacom and W. Winter, Phys. Rev. Lett. 115:161302, 2015

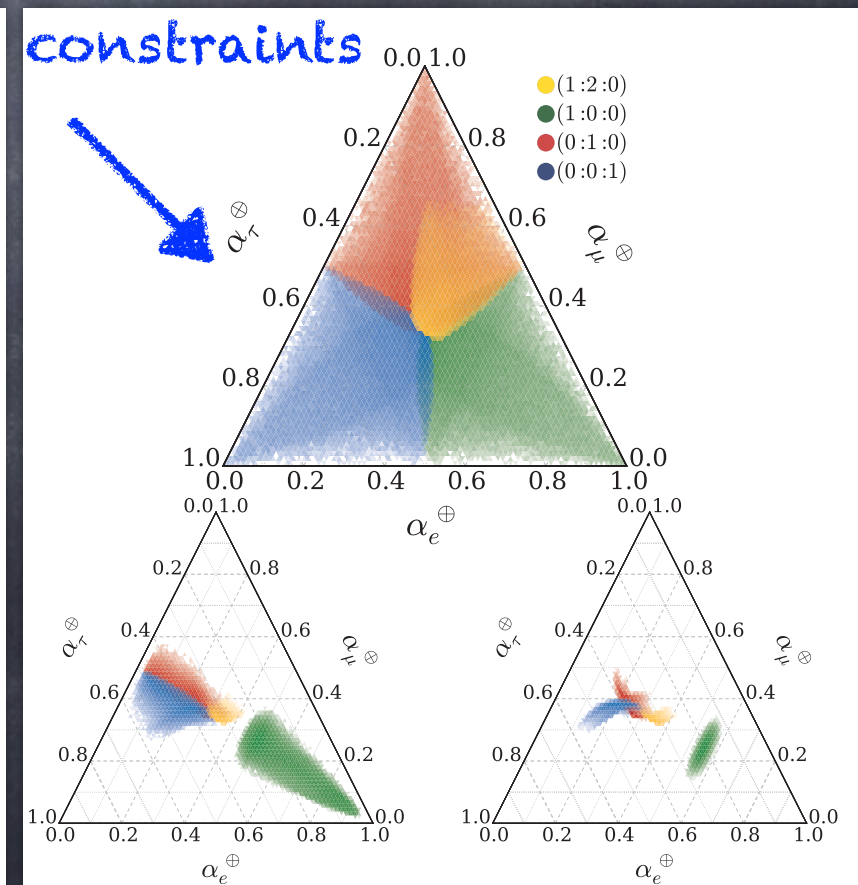
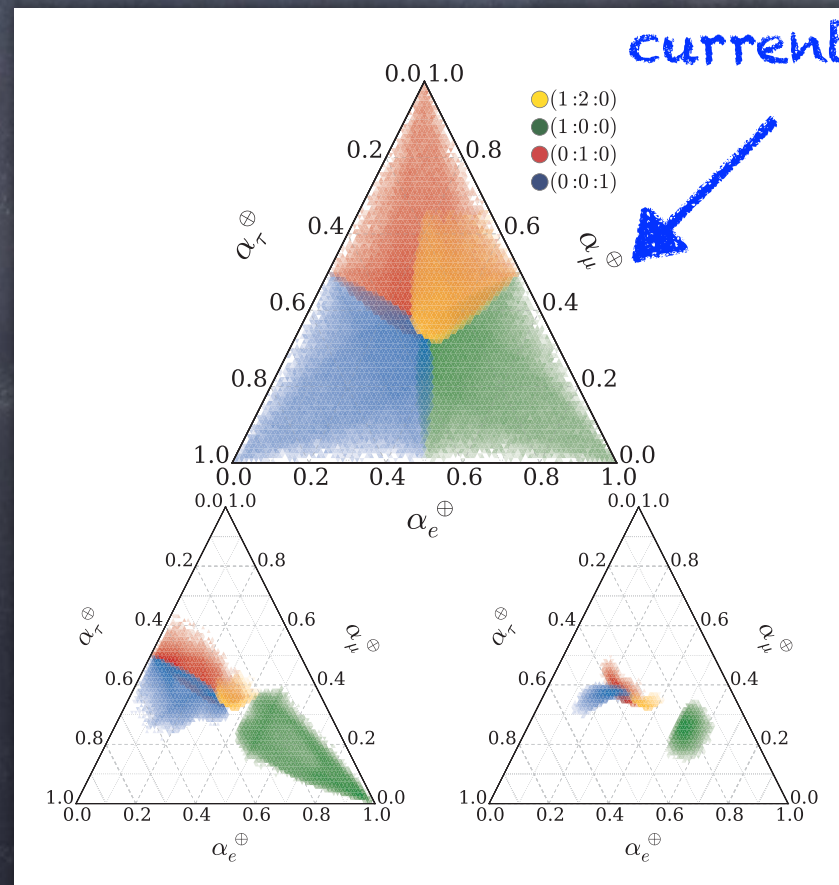
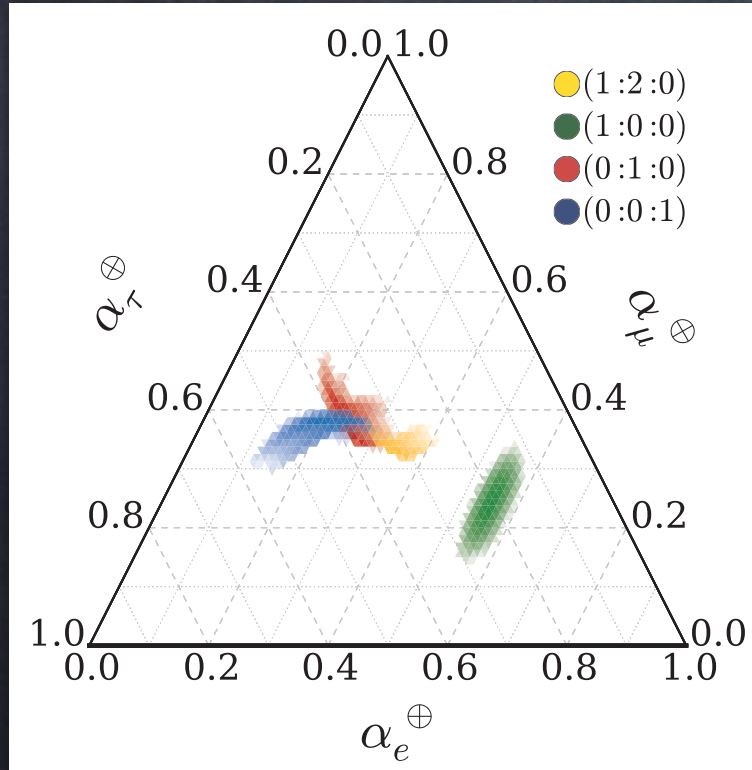
MORE EXTREME SCENARIOS

Using effective operators:
general evolution hamiltonian

flavor structure
of new physics

$$H = \frac{1}{2E} U M^2 U^\dagger + \sum_n \left(\frac{E}{\Lambda_n} \right)^n \tilde{U}_n O_n \tilde{U}_n^\dagger$$

$n=0$: neutrino couplings to spacetime torsion, CPT-odd Lorentz violation, NSI
 $n=1$: CPT-even Lorentz violation, equivalence principle violation



EFFECT OF HIGH-ENERGY CUT

3-YEAR DATA

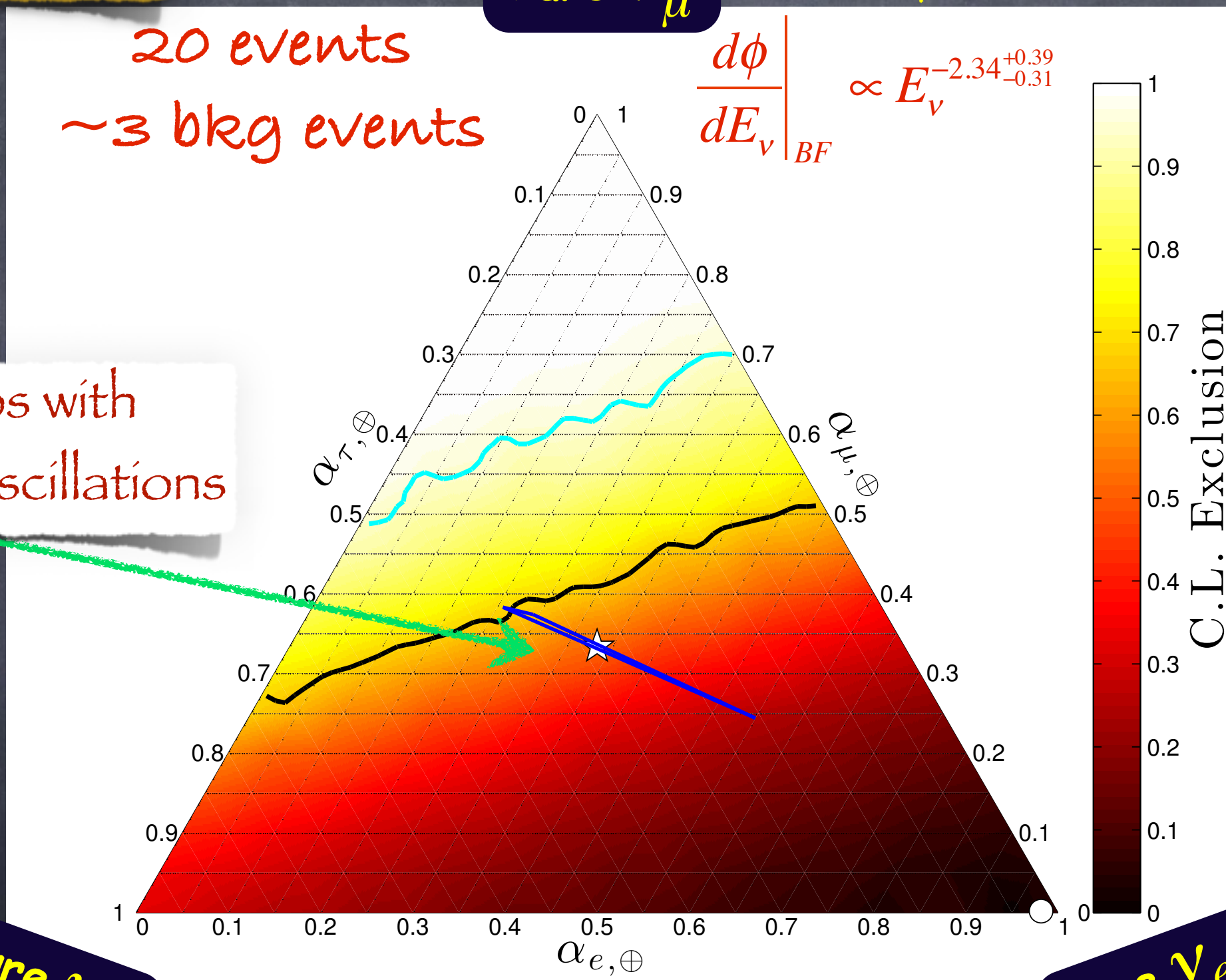
Pure ν_μ

$$E_{\text{dep}} = [60 \text{ TeV}, 3 \text{ PeV}]$$

20 events
~3 bkg events

$$\left. \frac{d\phi}{dE_\nu} \right|_{BF} \propto E_\nu^{-2.34^{+0.39}_{-0.31}}$$

Flavor ratios with averaged oscillations



Pure ν_τ

Pure ν_e

SPR, A. C. Vincent and O. Mena, Phys. Rev. D91:103008, 2015

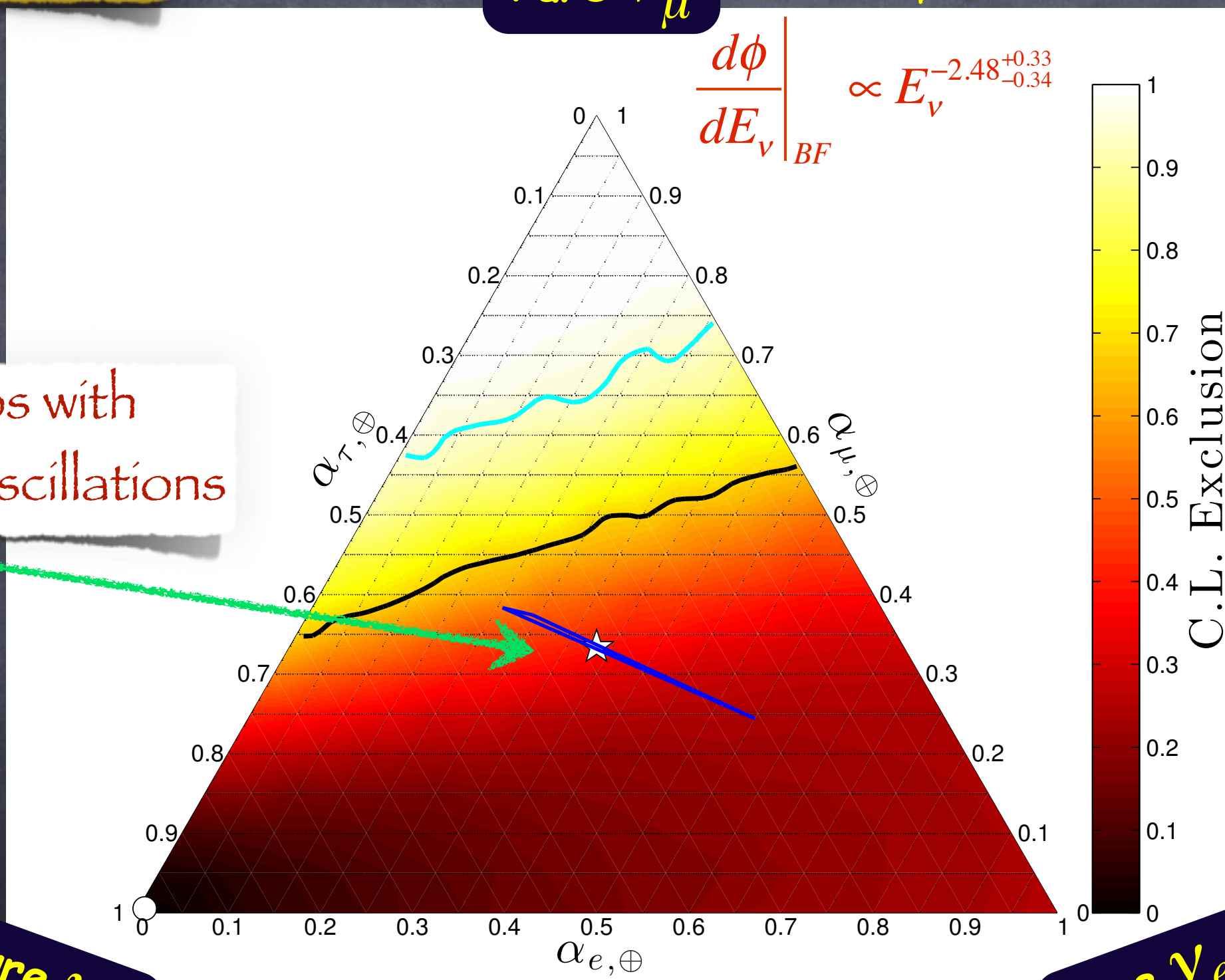
EFFECT OF HIGH-ENERGY CUT

3-YEAR DATA

Pure ν_μ

$$E_{\text{dep}} = [60 \text{ TeV}, 10 \text{ PeV}]$$

$$\left. \frac{d\phi}{dE_\nu} \right|_{BF} \propto E_\nu^{-2.48^{+0.33}_{-0.34}}$$



Flavor ratios with averaged oscillations

Pure ν_τ

Pure ν_e

SPR, A. C. Vincent and O. Mena, Phys. Rev. D91:103008, 2015

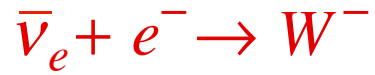
EFFECT OF HIGH-ENERGY CUT

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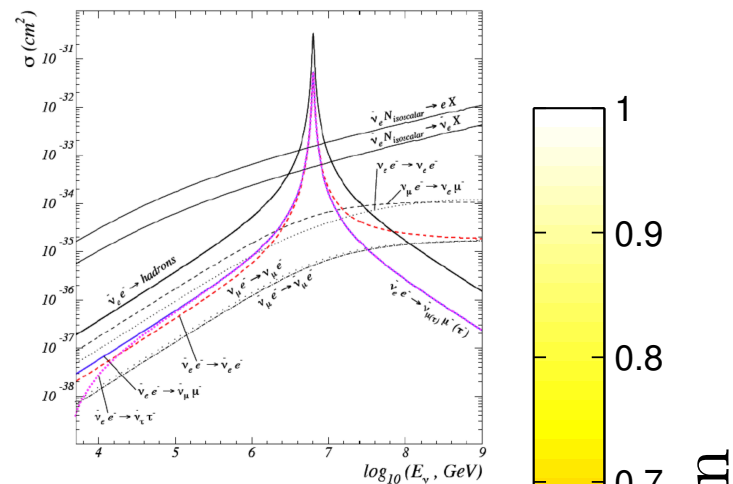
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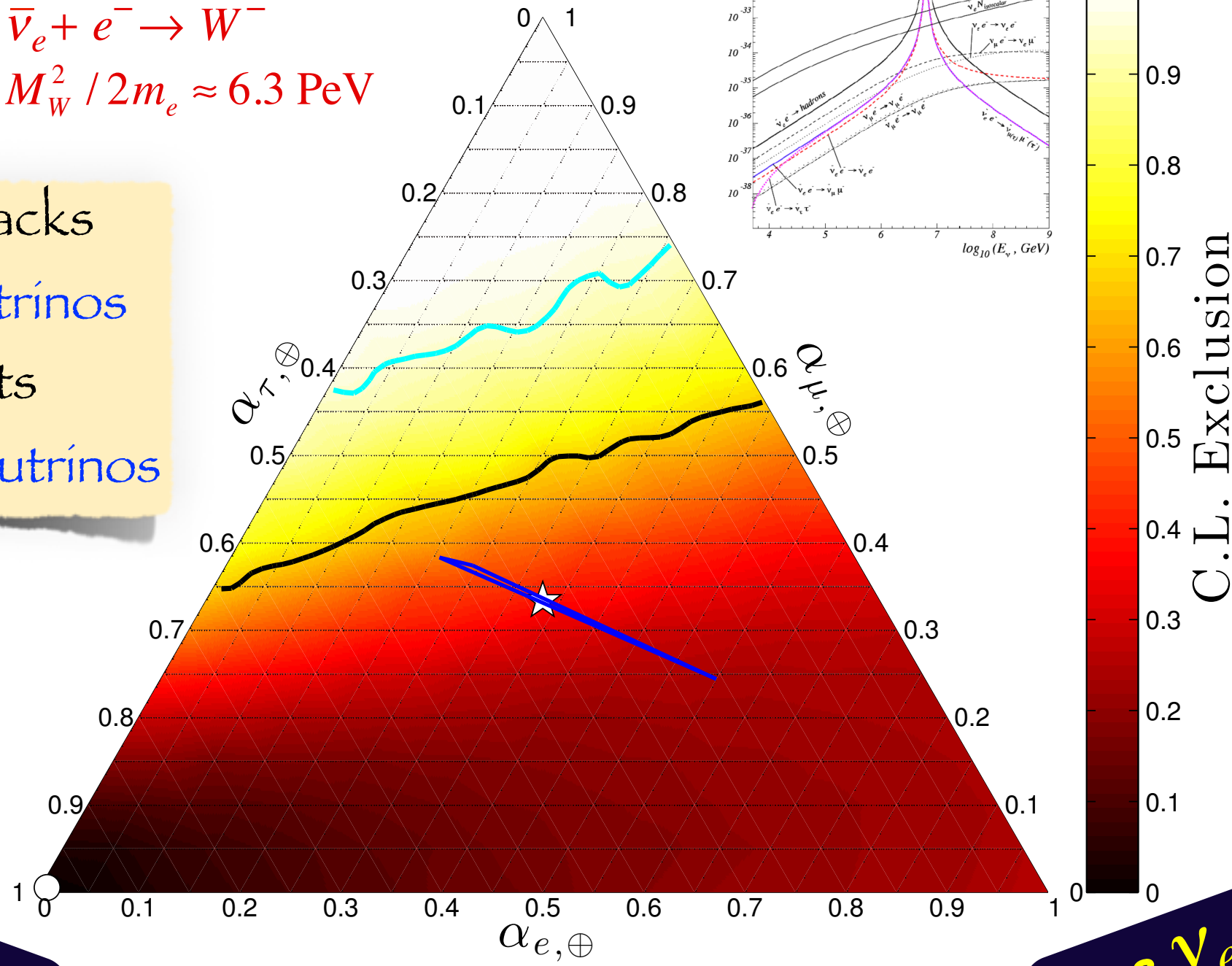
Effect of the Glashow resonance



$E_R = M_W^2 / 2m_e \approx 6.3 \text{ PeV}$



Not enough tracks
 → no muon neutrinos
 No GR events
 → no electron neutrinos



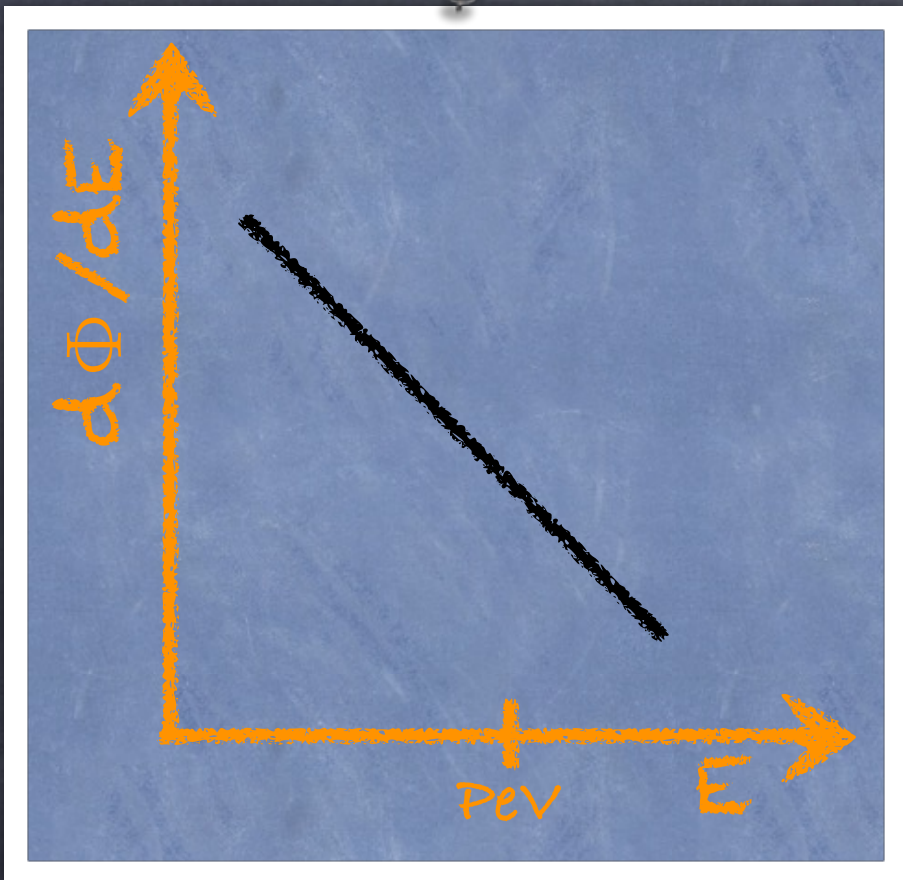
Pure ν_τ

Pure ν_e

SPR, A. C. Vincent and O. Mena, Phys. Rev. D91:103008, 2015

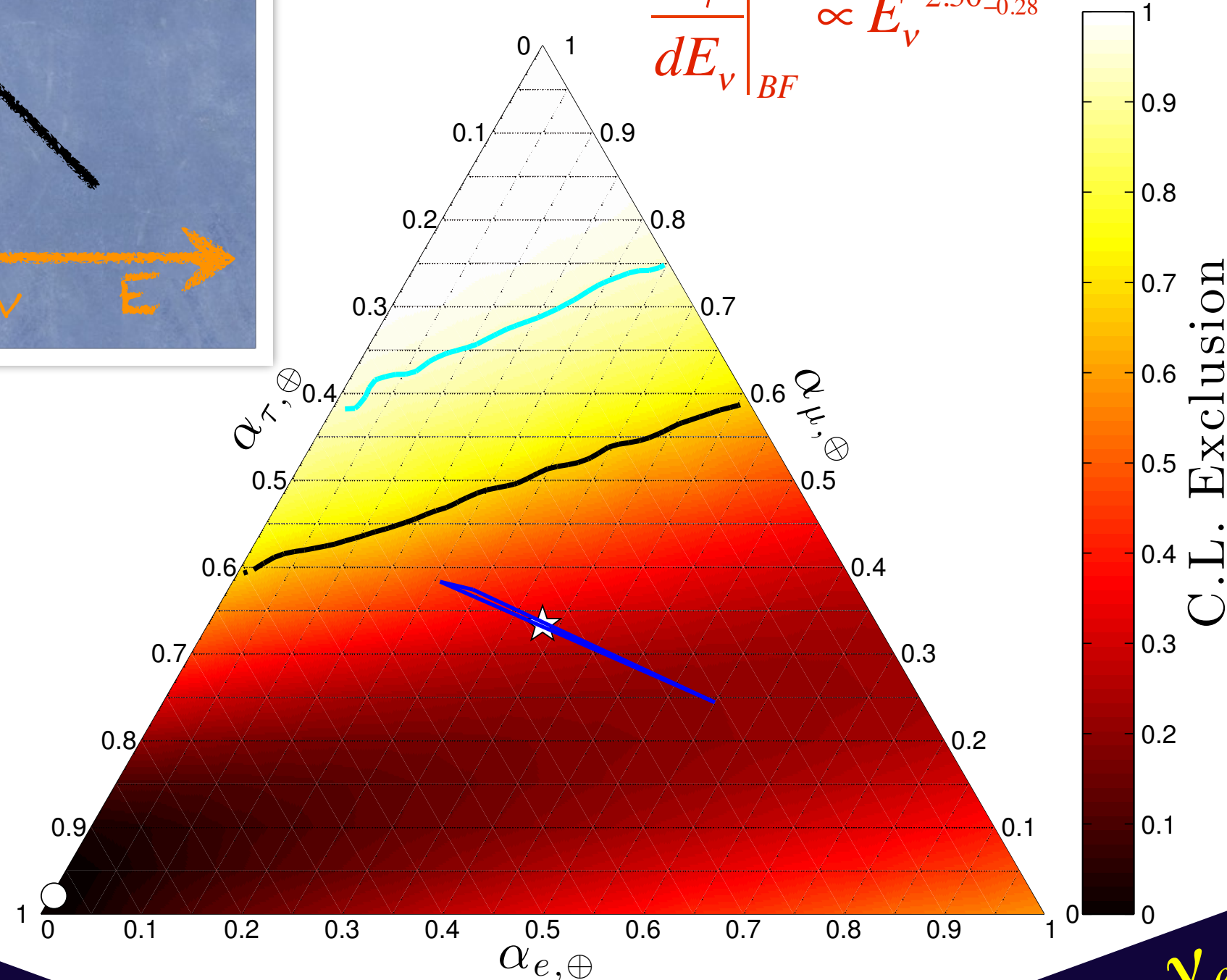
EFFECT OF SPECTRAL BREAK

$$E_{\text{dep}} = [60 \text{ TeV}, 10 \text{ PeV}]$$



Pure ν_μ

$$\left. \frac{d\phi}{dE_\nu} \right|_{BF} \propto E_\nu^{-2.50^{+0.36}_{-0.28}}$$



Pure ν_τ

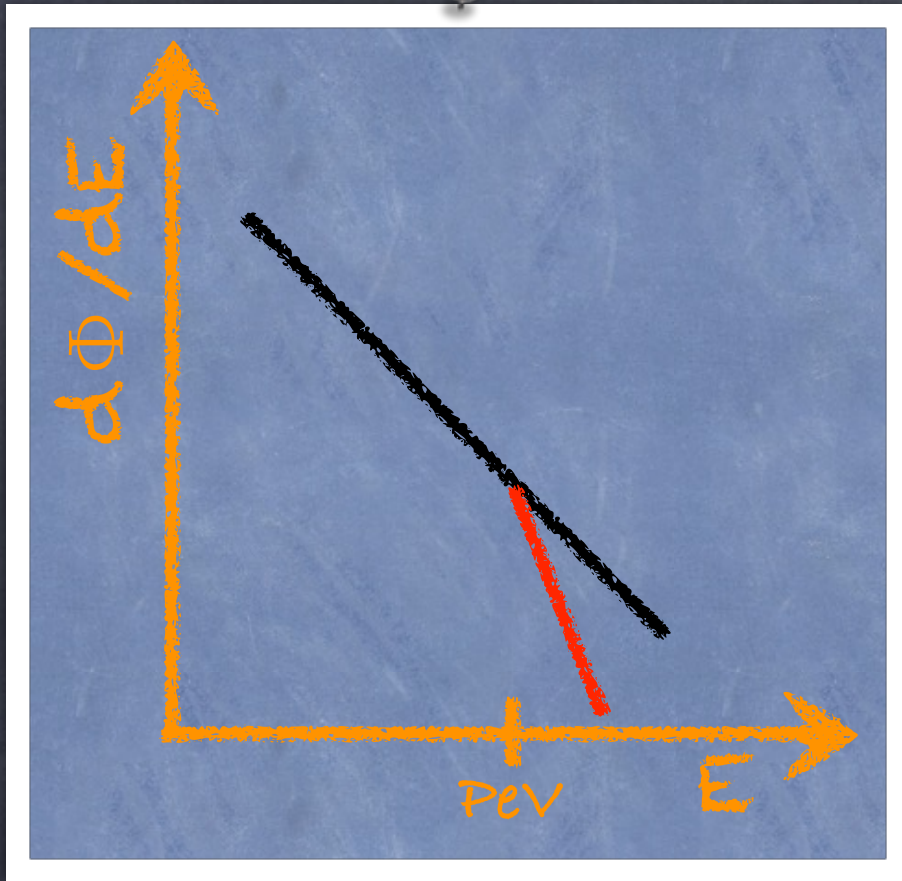
Pure ν_e

SPR, A. C. Vincent and O. Mena, Phys. Rev. D91:103008, 2015

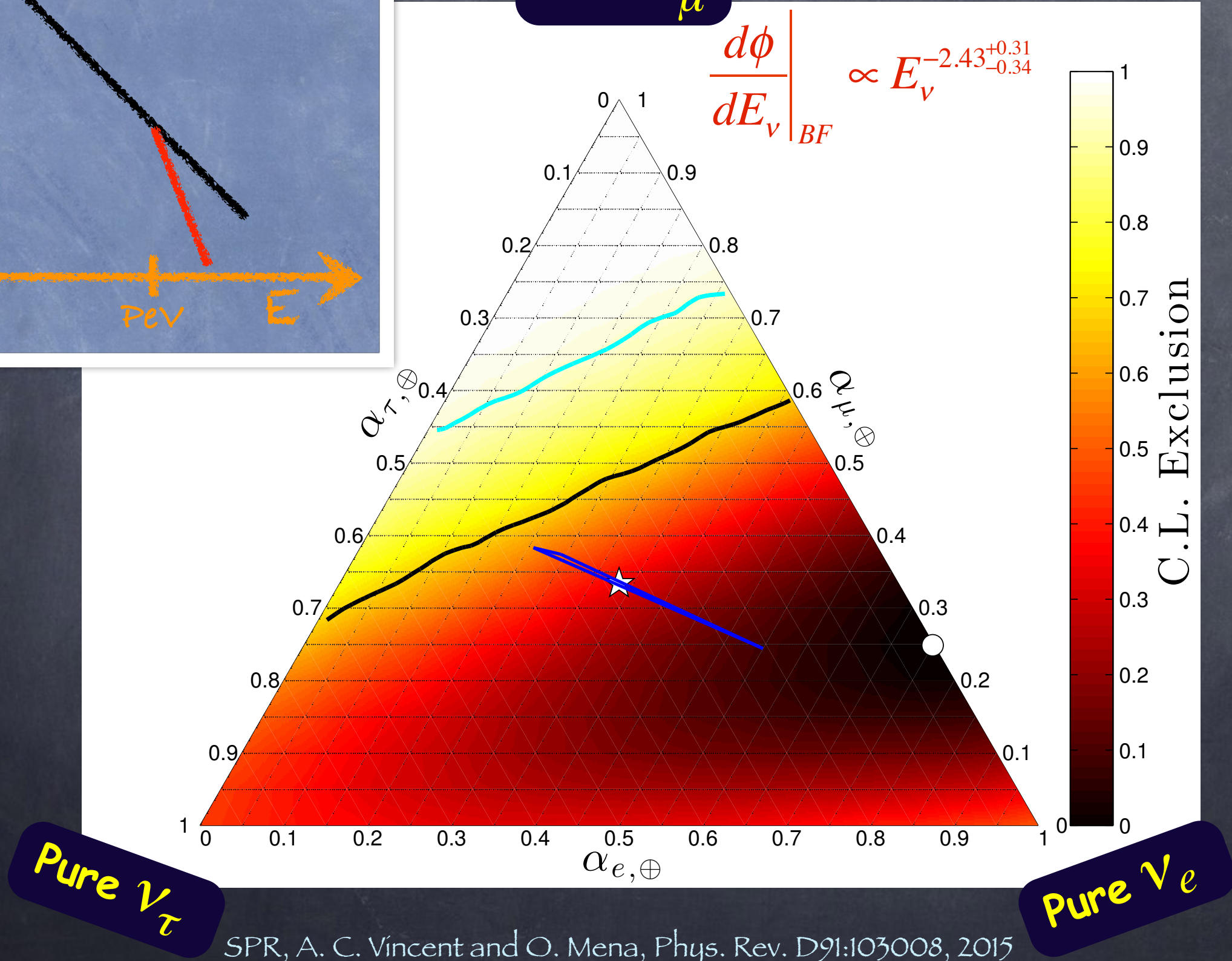
EFFECT OF SPECTRAL BREAK

$$E_{\text{dep}} = [60 \text{ TeV}, 10 \text{ PeV}]$$

Pure ν_μ



$$\left. \frac{d\phi}{dE_\nu} \right|_{BF} \propto E_\nu^{-2.43^{+0.31}_{-0.34}}$$

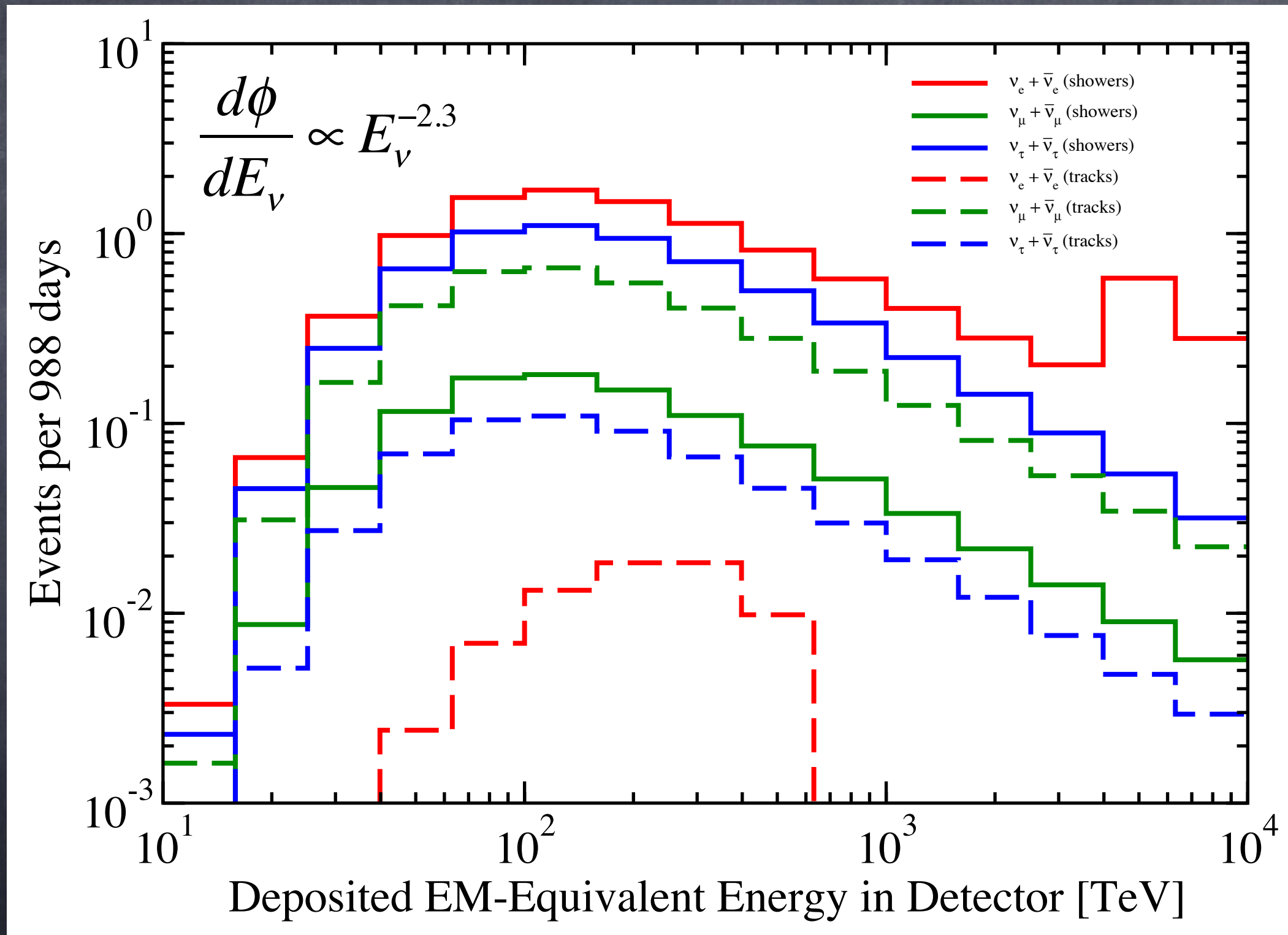


Pure ν_τ

Pure ν_e

SPR, A. C. Vincent and O. Mena, Phys. Rev. D91:103008, 2015

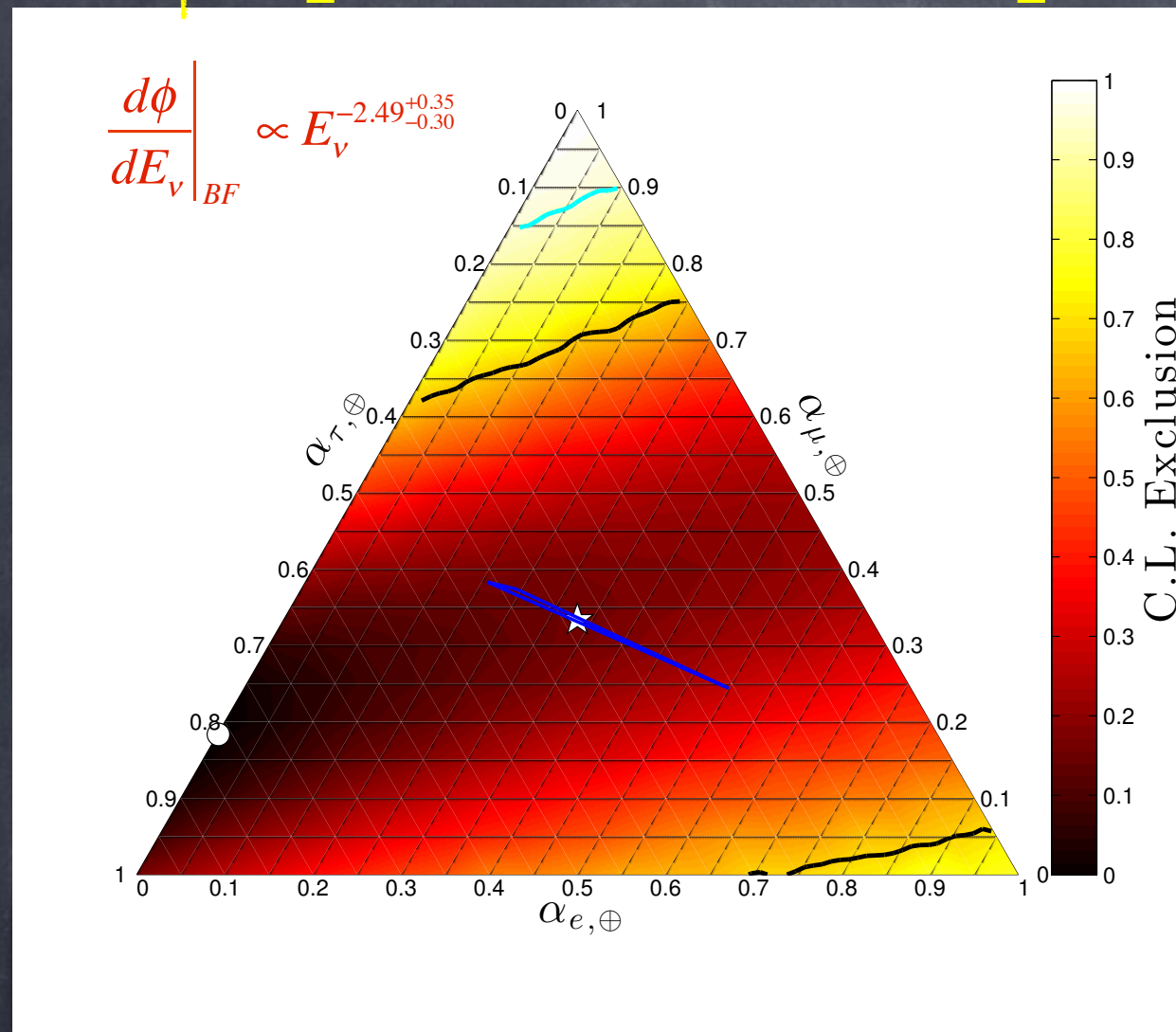
ENERGY DISTRIBUTION OF HESE



SPR, A. C. Vincent and O. Mena, Phys. Rev. D91:103008, 2015

EFFECT OF TRACK MISID

$$E_{\text{dep}} = [60 \text{ TeV}, 10 \text{ PeV}]$$

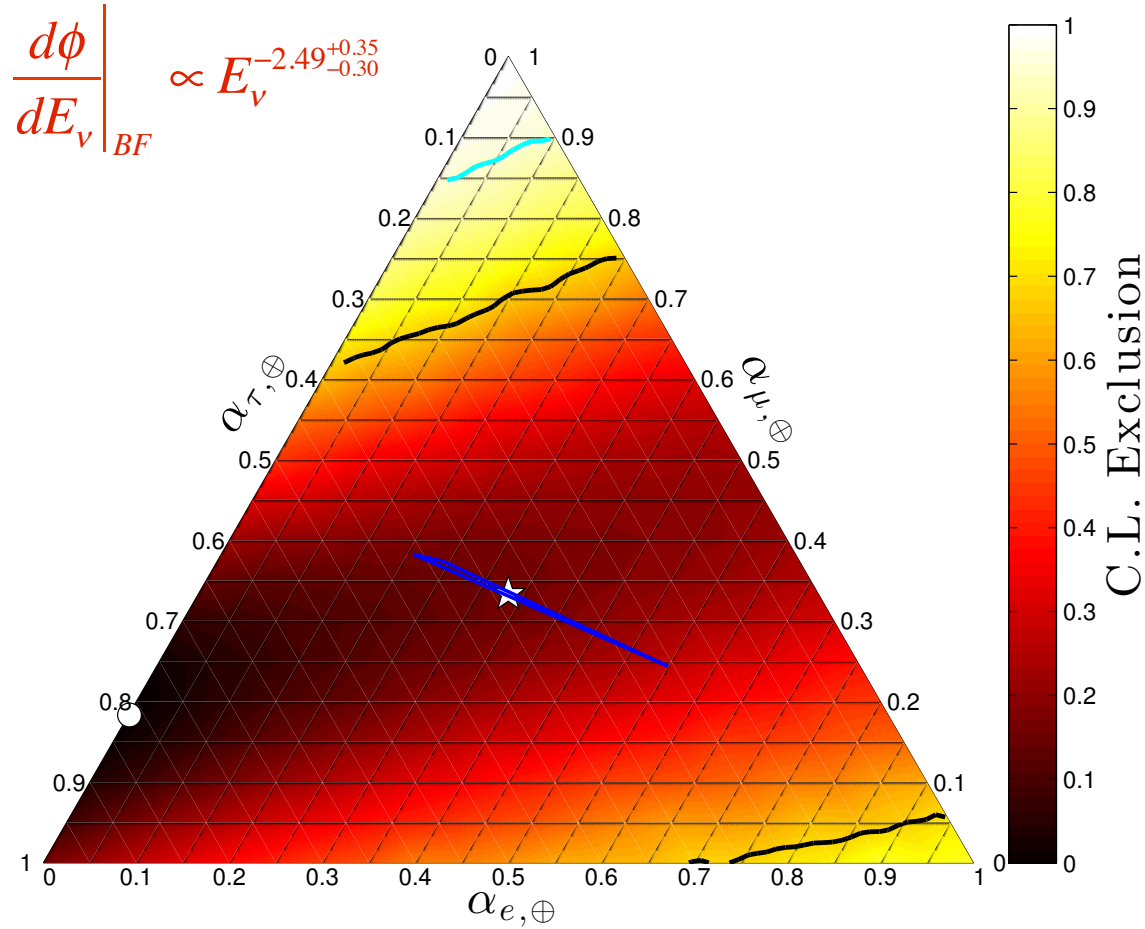


SPR, A. C. Vincent and O. Mena,
Phys. Rev. D91:103008, 2015

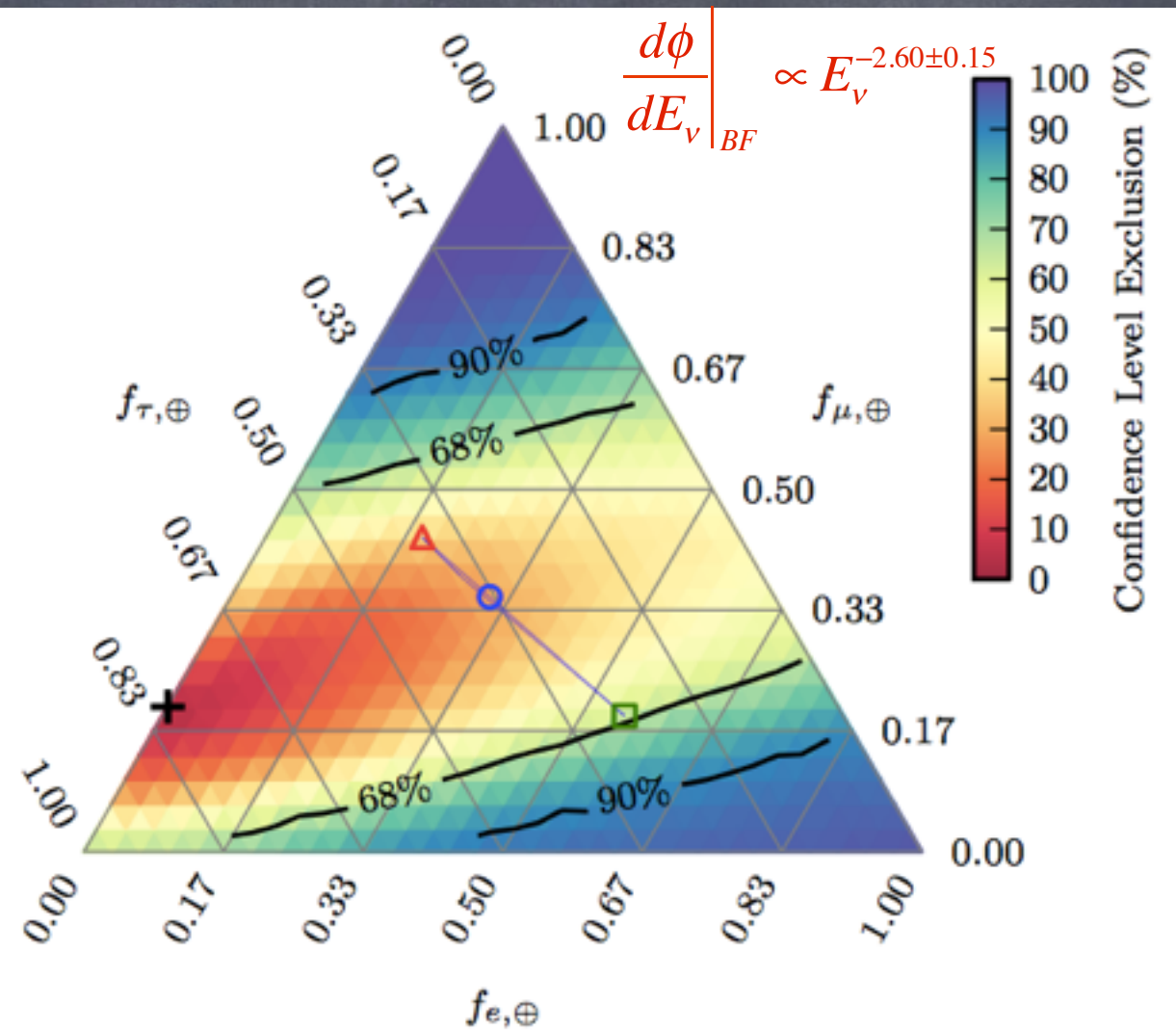
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3-yr IceCube analysis



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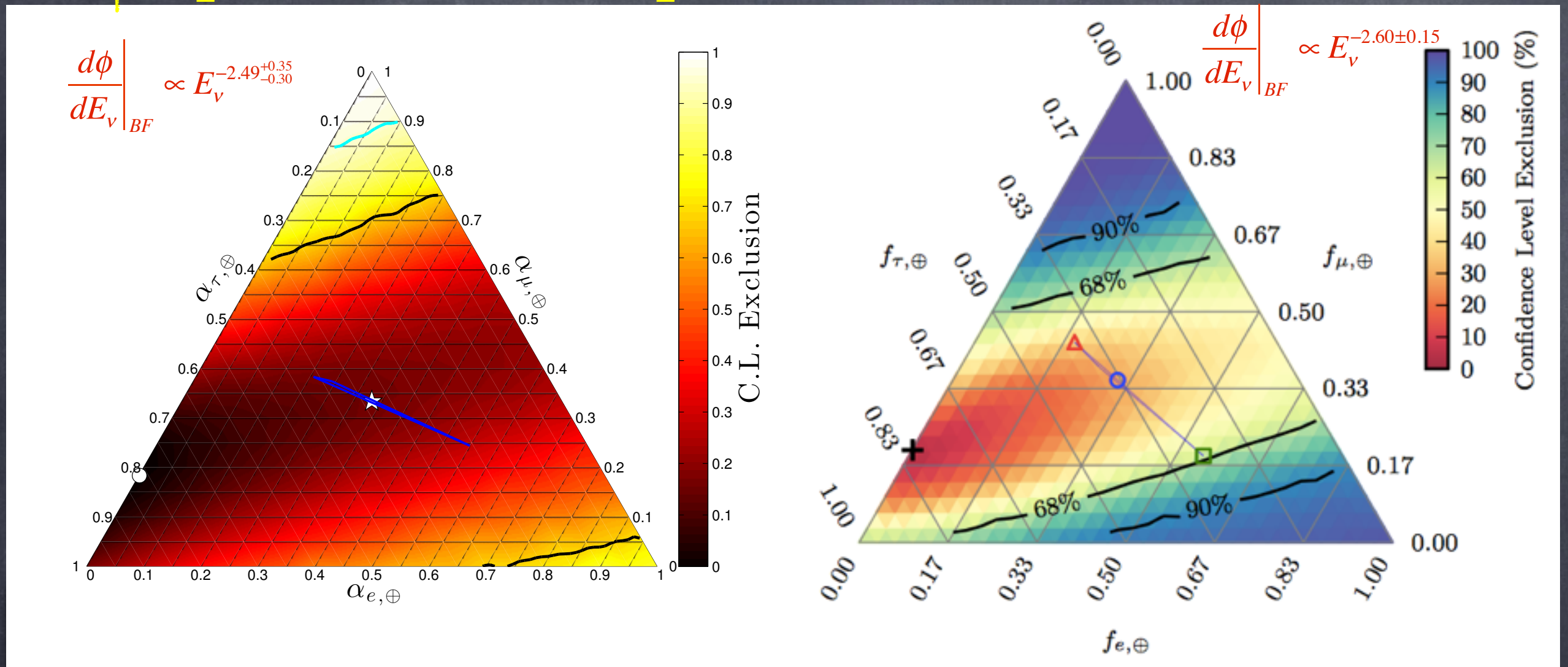


M. G. Aartsen et al. [Icecube Collaboration],
Phys. Rev. Lett. 114:171102, 2015

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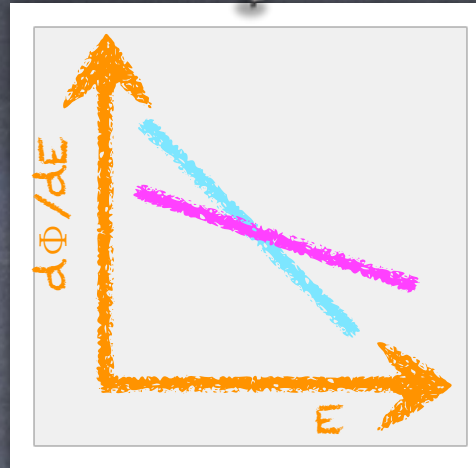
M. G. Aartsen et al. [Icecube Collaboration],
Phys. Rev. Lett. 114:171102, 2015

Differences between the IceCube analysis and O. Mena, SPR and A. C. Vincent (PRL113:091103, 2014) are mainly due to extending the deposited energy range to cover the Glashow resonance (+ track misID)

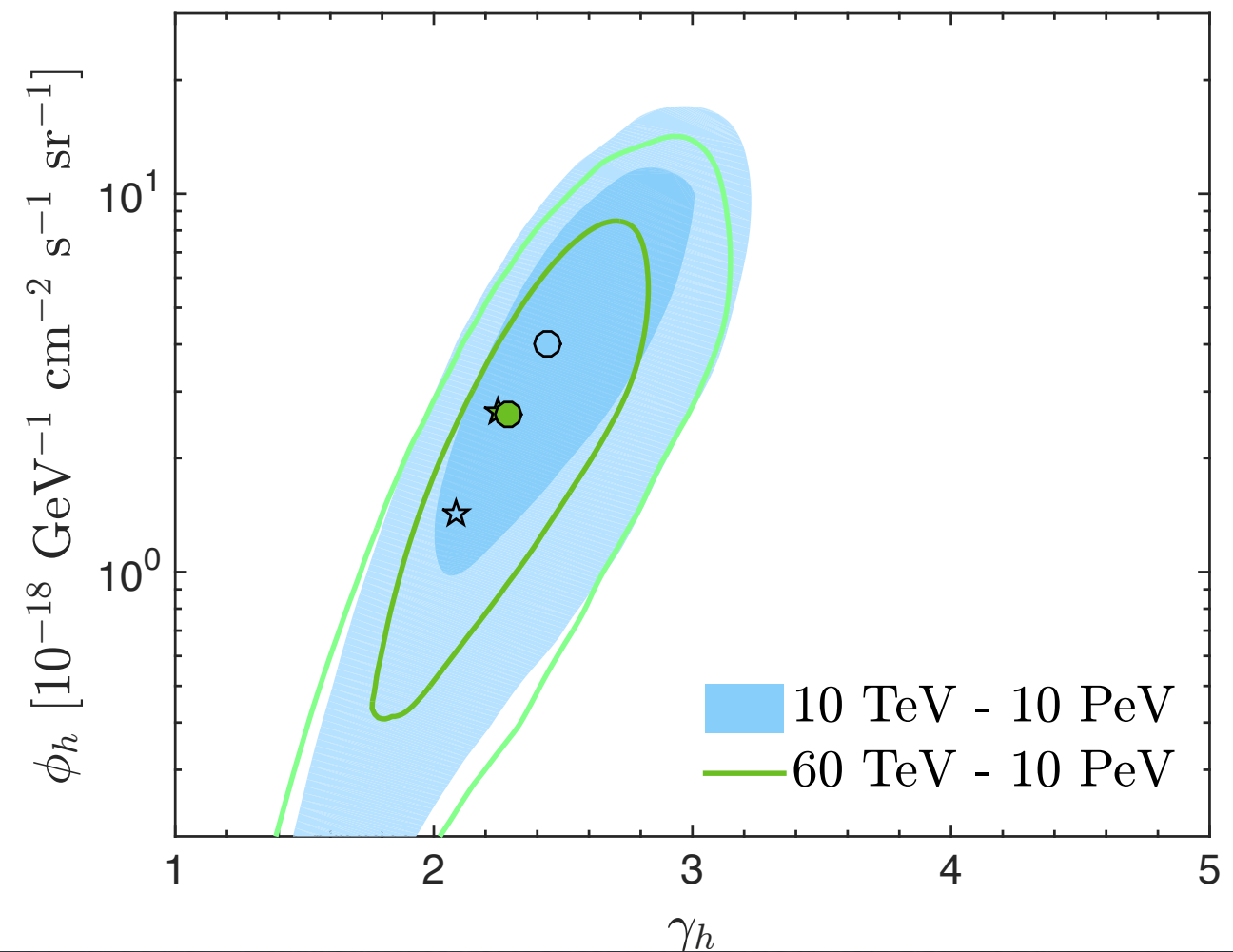
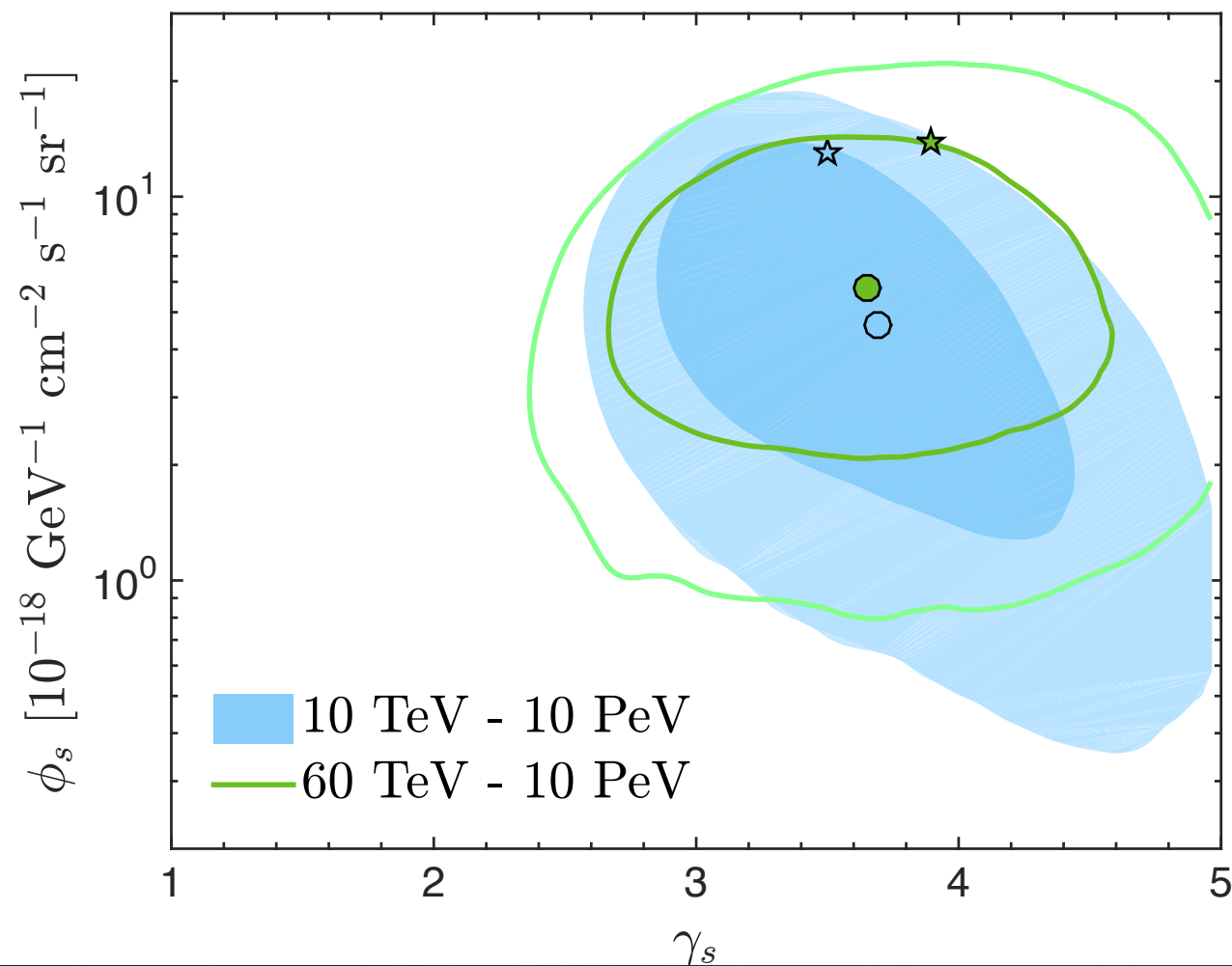
TWO POWER-LAW SPECTRA

4-YEAR DATA

SOFT SPECTRUM



HARD SPECTRUM



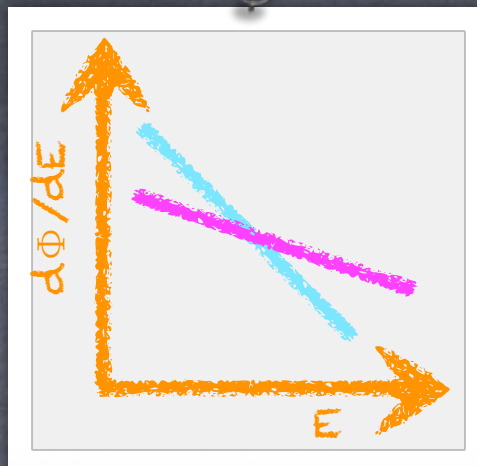
A. C. Vincent, SPR and O. Mena, Phys. Rev. D94:023009, 2016

TWO POWER-LAW SPECTRA

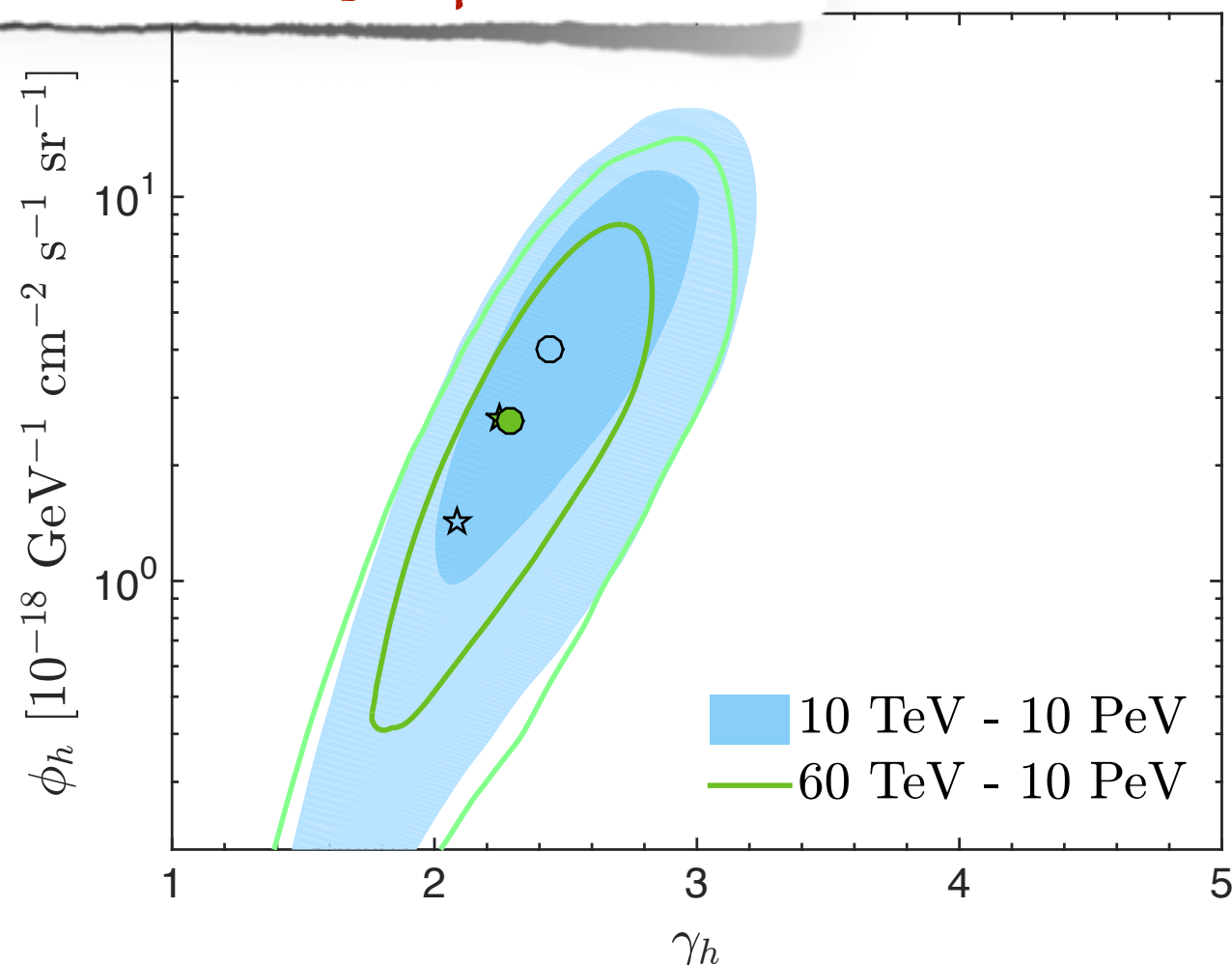
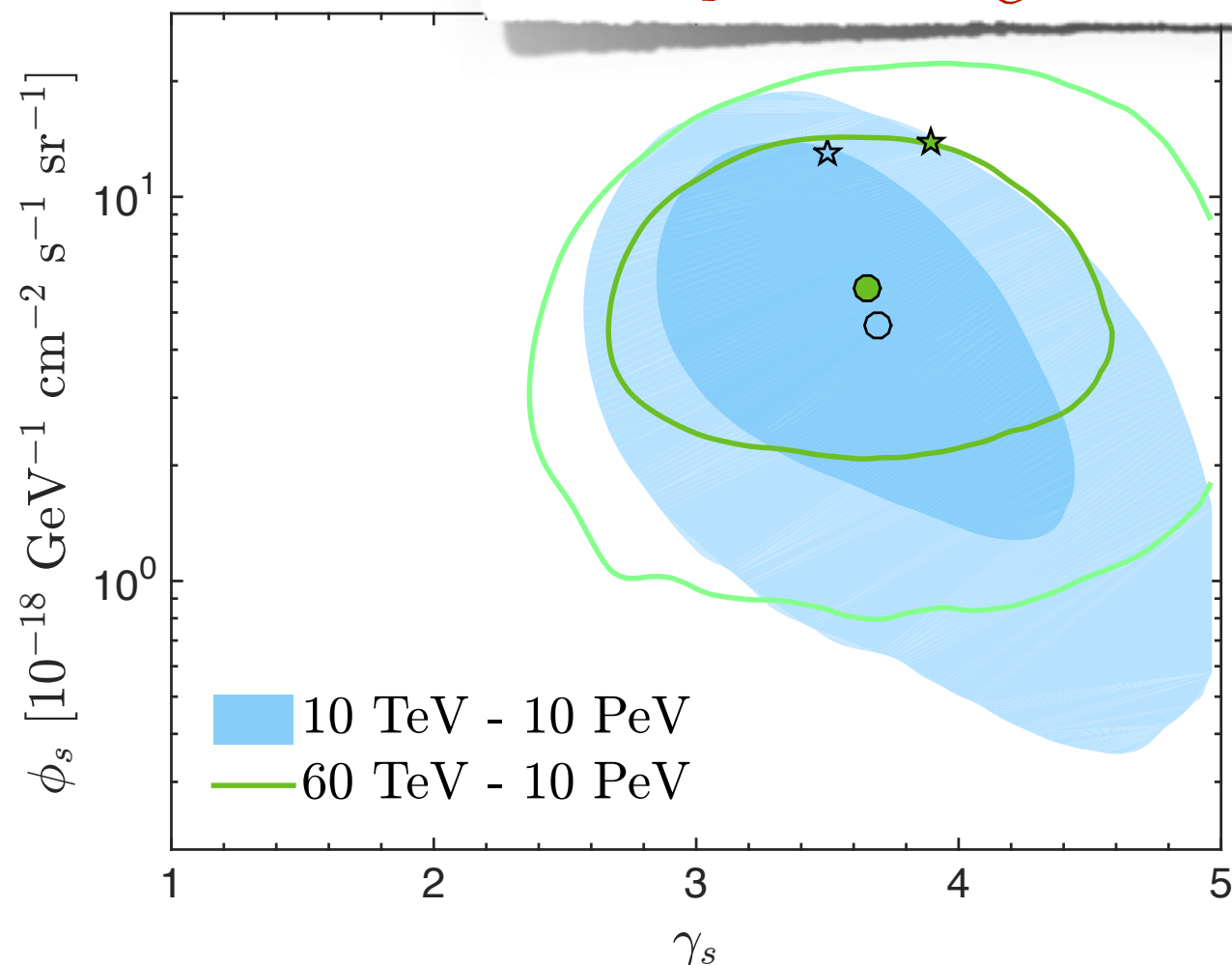
4-YEAR DATA

SOFT SPECTRUM

HARD SPECTRUM



Not significantly better than a single power-law



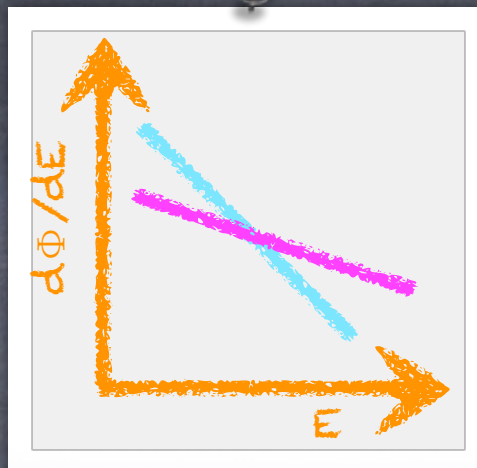
A. C. Vincent, SPR and O. Mena, Phys. Rev. D94:023009, 2016

TWO POWER-LAW SPECTRA

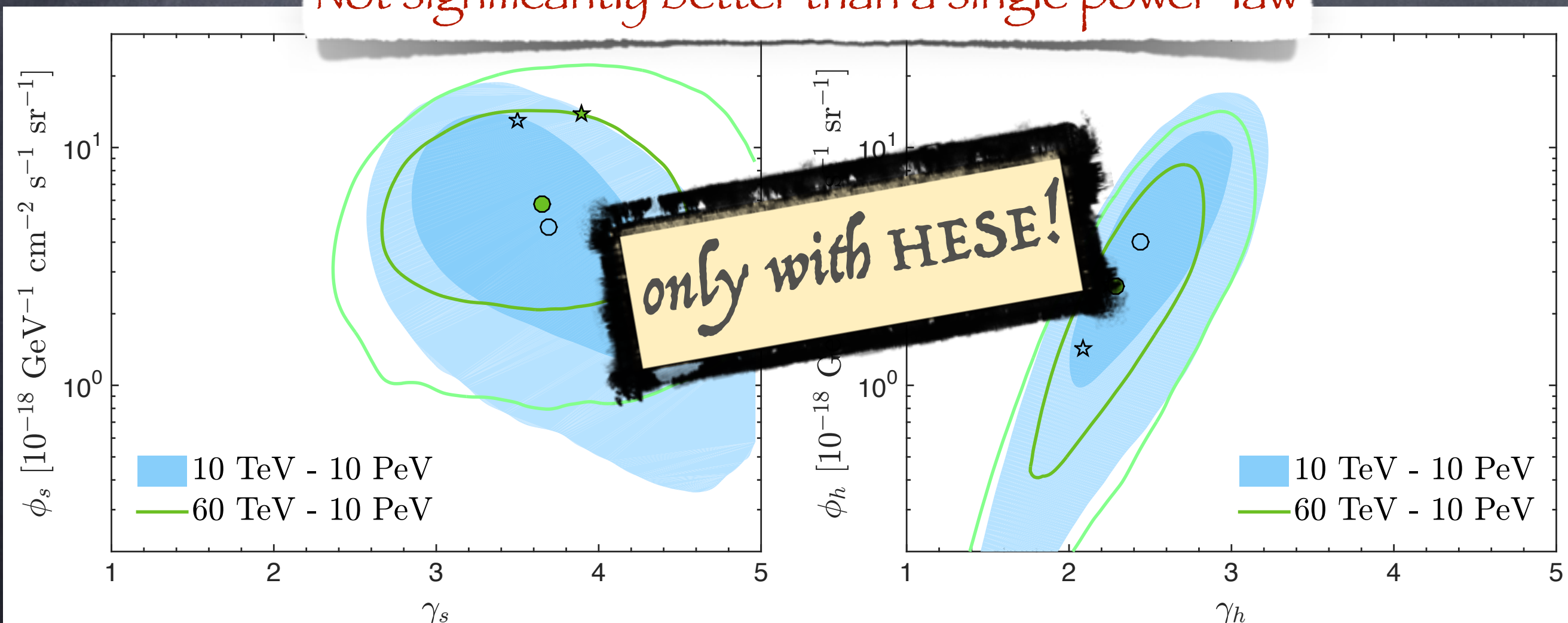
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HARD SPECTRUM



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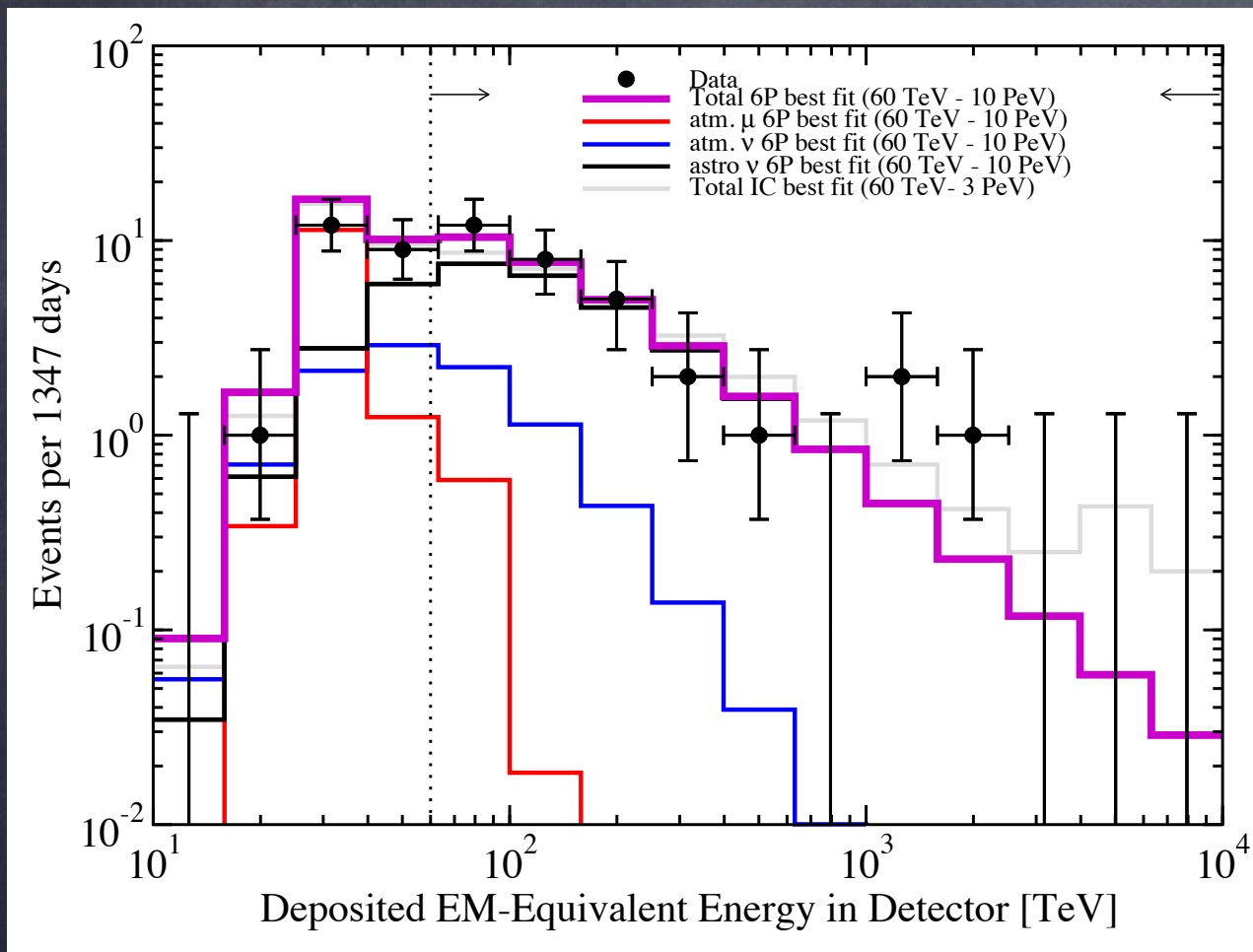


A. C. Vincent, SPR and O. Mena, Phys. Rev. D94:023009, 2016

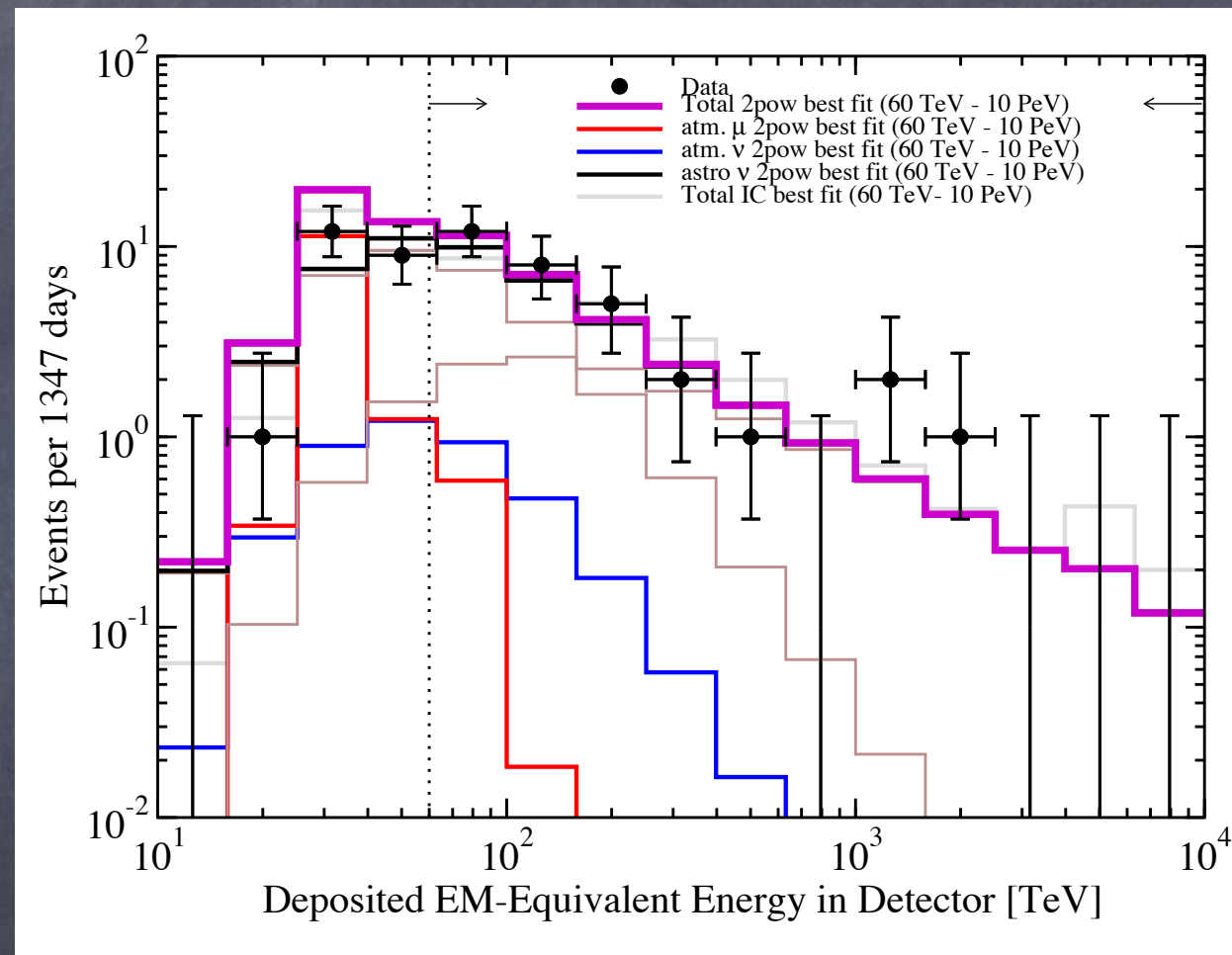
EVENT SPECTRA

4-YEAR DATA

SINGLE POWER-LAW FLUX



TWO POWER-LAW FLUX



$$E_v^2 \frac{d\Phi}{dE_v} \Big|_{BF} = 10.3 \left(\frac{E_v}{100 \text{ TeV}} \right)^{-0.77} \times 10^{-8} \text{ GeV}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1} \text{ sr}^{-1}$$

$$E_v^2 \frac{d\Phi}{dE_v} \Big|_{BF} = \left[13.8 \left(\frac{E_v}{100 \text{ TeV}} \right)^{-1.89} + 2.7 \left(\frac{E_v}{100 \text{ TeV}} \right)^{-0.25} \right] \times 10^{-8} \text{ GeV}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1} \text{ sr}^{-1}$$

IC best fit [60 TeV - 3 PeV] (1:1:1)

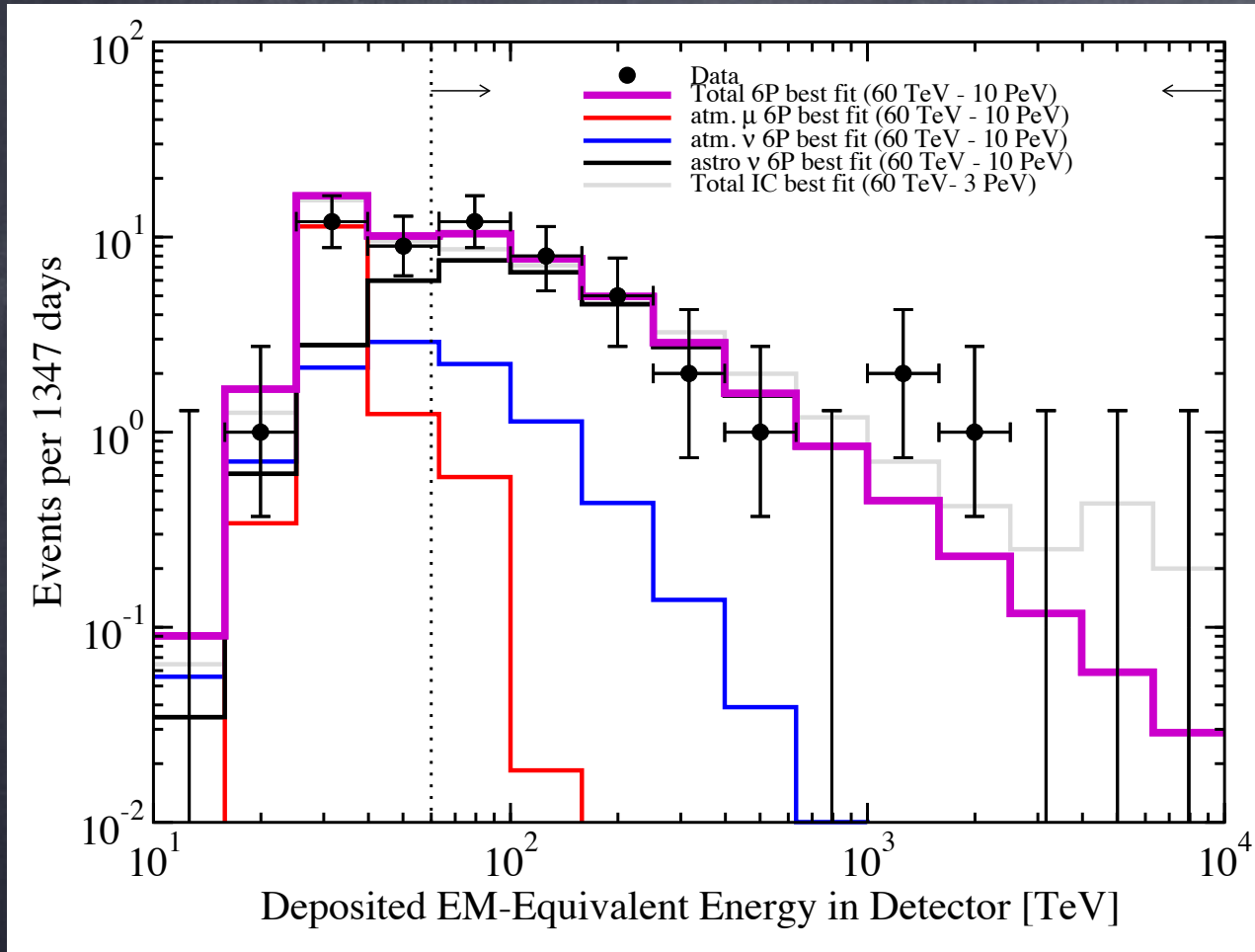
$$E_v^2 \frac{d\Phi}{dE_v} \Big|_{BF} = 6.6 \left(\frac{E_v}{100 \text{ TeV}} \right)^{-0.58} \times 10^{-8} \text{ GeV}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1} \text{ sr}^{-1}$$

A. C. Vincent, SPR and O. Mena, *Phys. Rev. D*94:023009, 2016

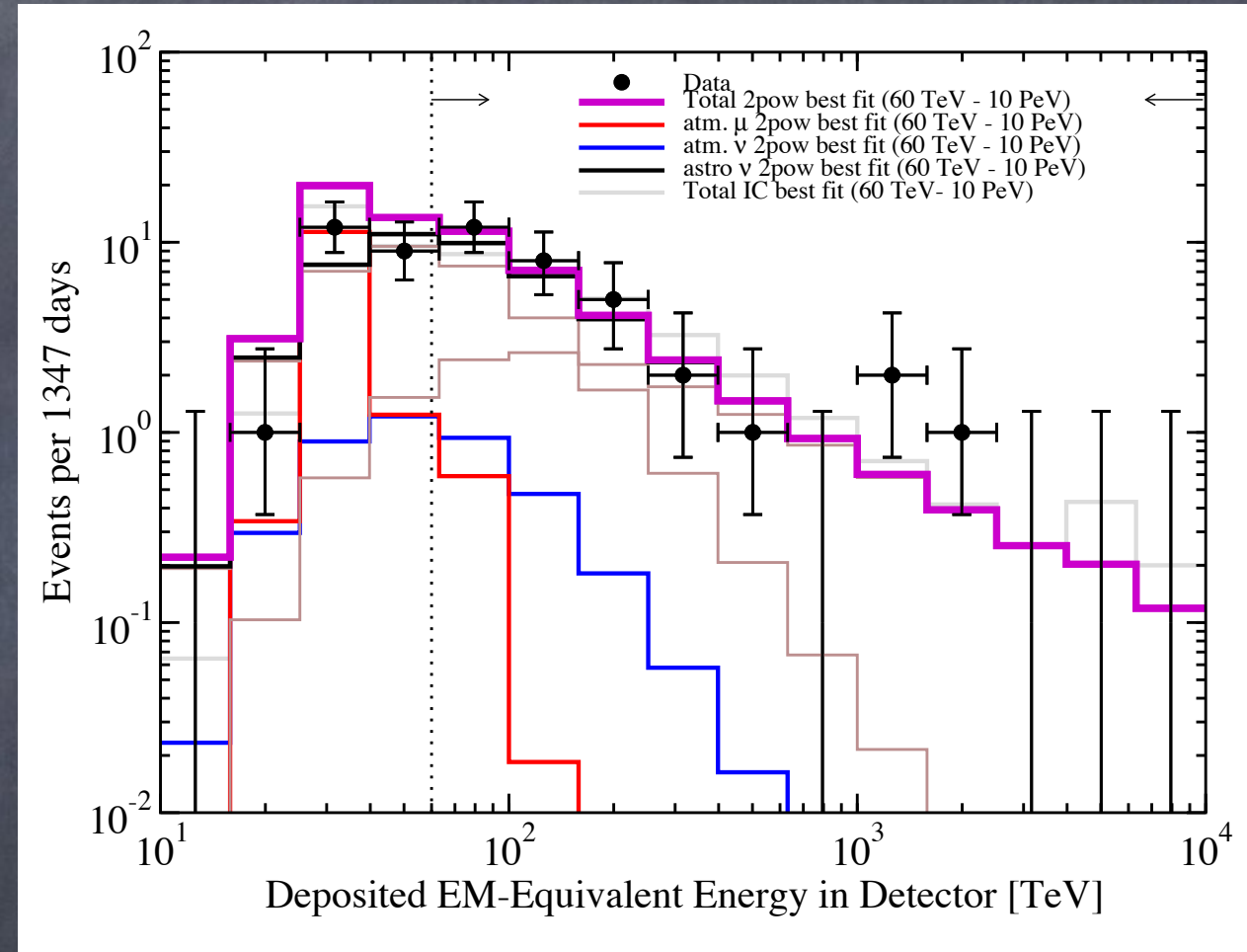
EVENT SPECTRA

4-YEAR DATA

SINGLE POWER-LAW FLUX



TWO POWER-LAW FLUX



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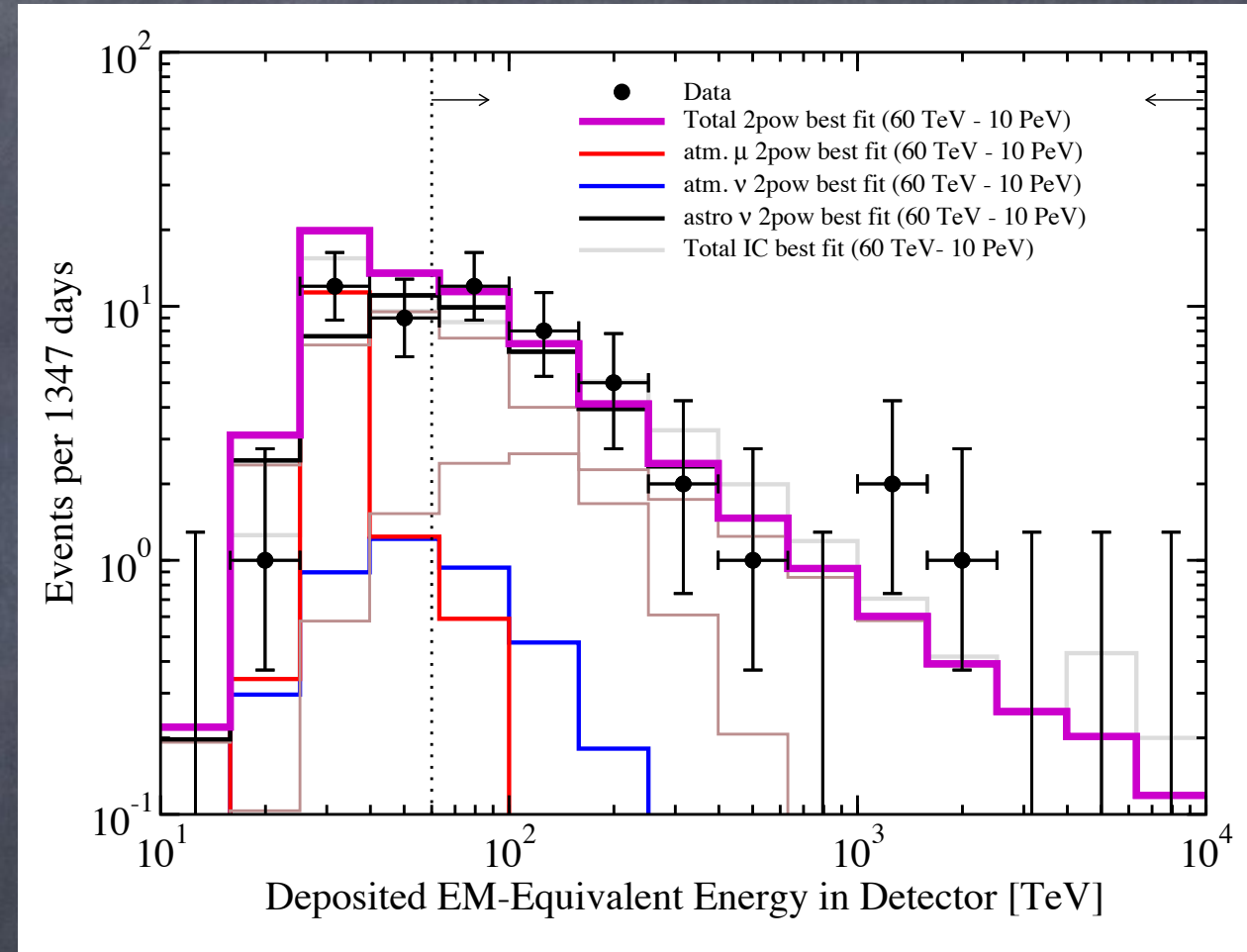
consistent with the through-going muons best fit

A. C. Vincent, SPR and O. Mena, Phys. Rev. D94:023009, 2016

EVENT SPECTRA

4-YEAR DATA

TWO POWER-LAW FLUX



$$E_\nu^2 \frac{d\Phi}{dE_\nu} \Big|_{BF} = \left[13.8 \left(\frac{E_\nu}{100 \text{ TeV}} \right)^{-1.89} + 2.7 \left(\frac{E_\nu}{100 \text{ TeV}} \right)^{-0.25} \right] \times 10^{-8} \text{ GeV}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1} \text{ sr}^{-1}$$

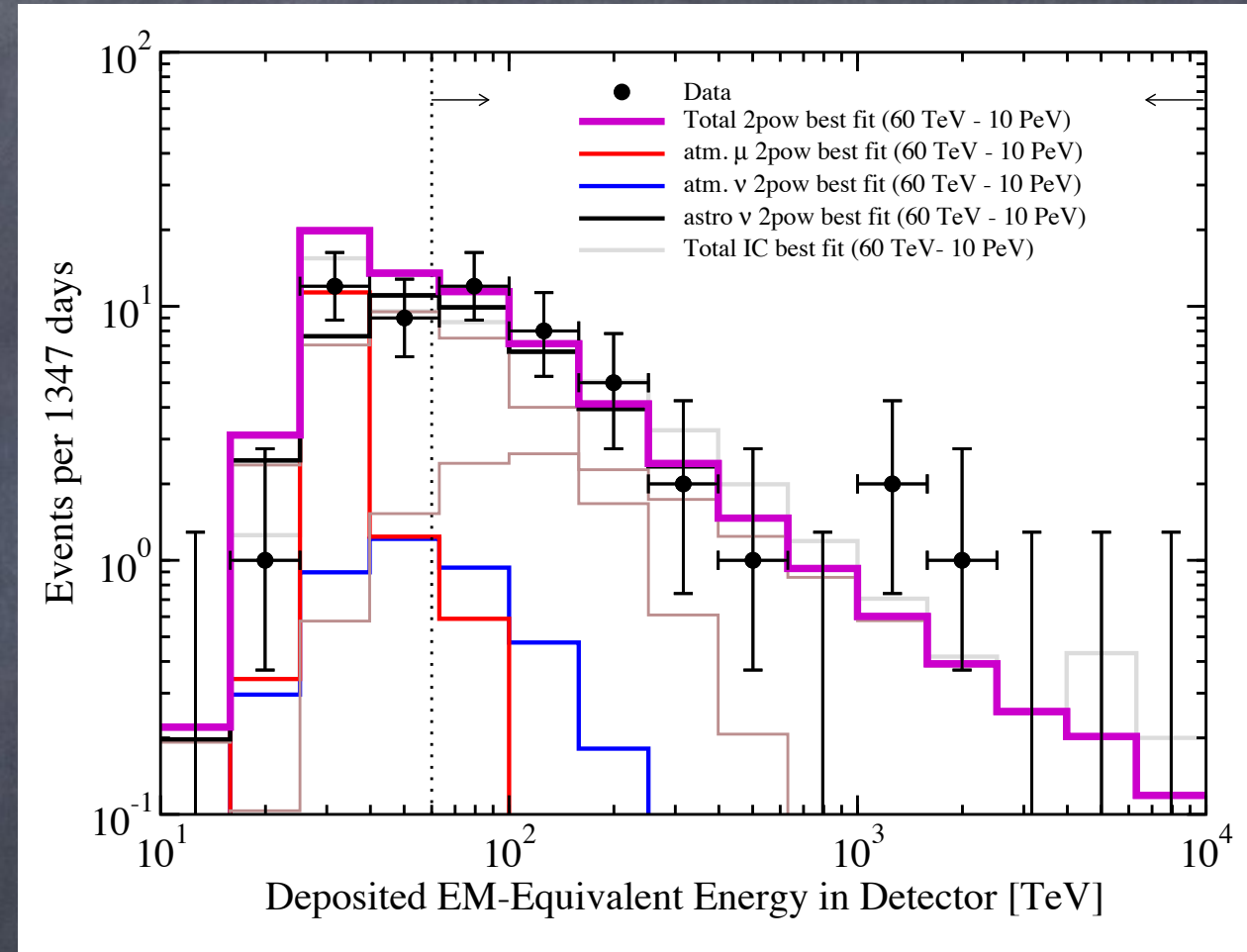
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Adapted from: A. C. Vincent, SPR and O. Mena, Phys. Rev. D94:023009, 2016

EVENT SPECTRA

4-YEAR DATA

TWO POWER-LAW FLUX



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very soft

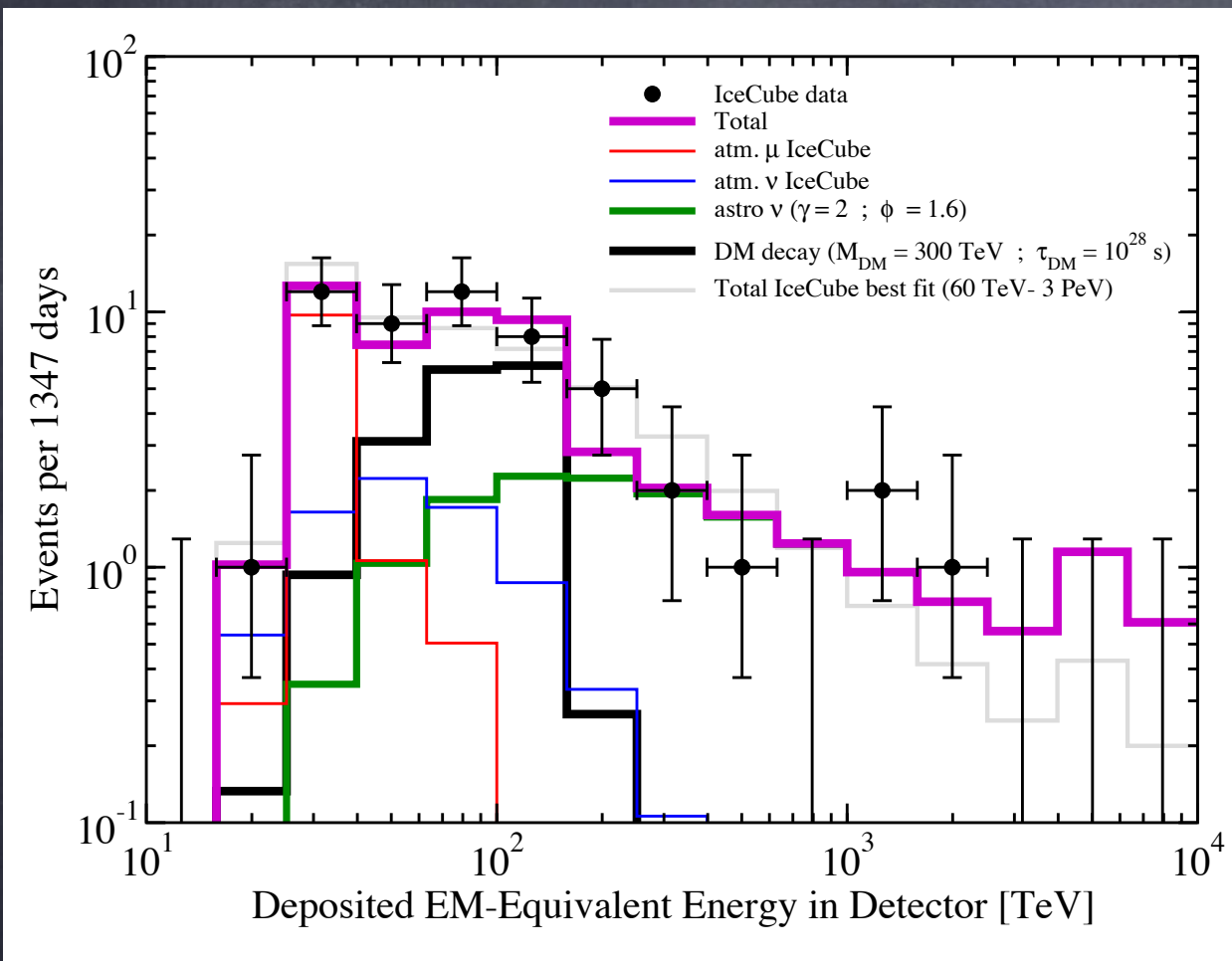
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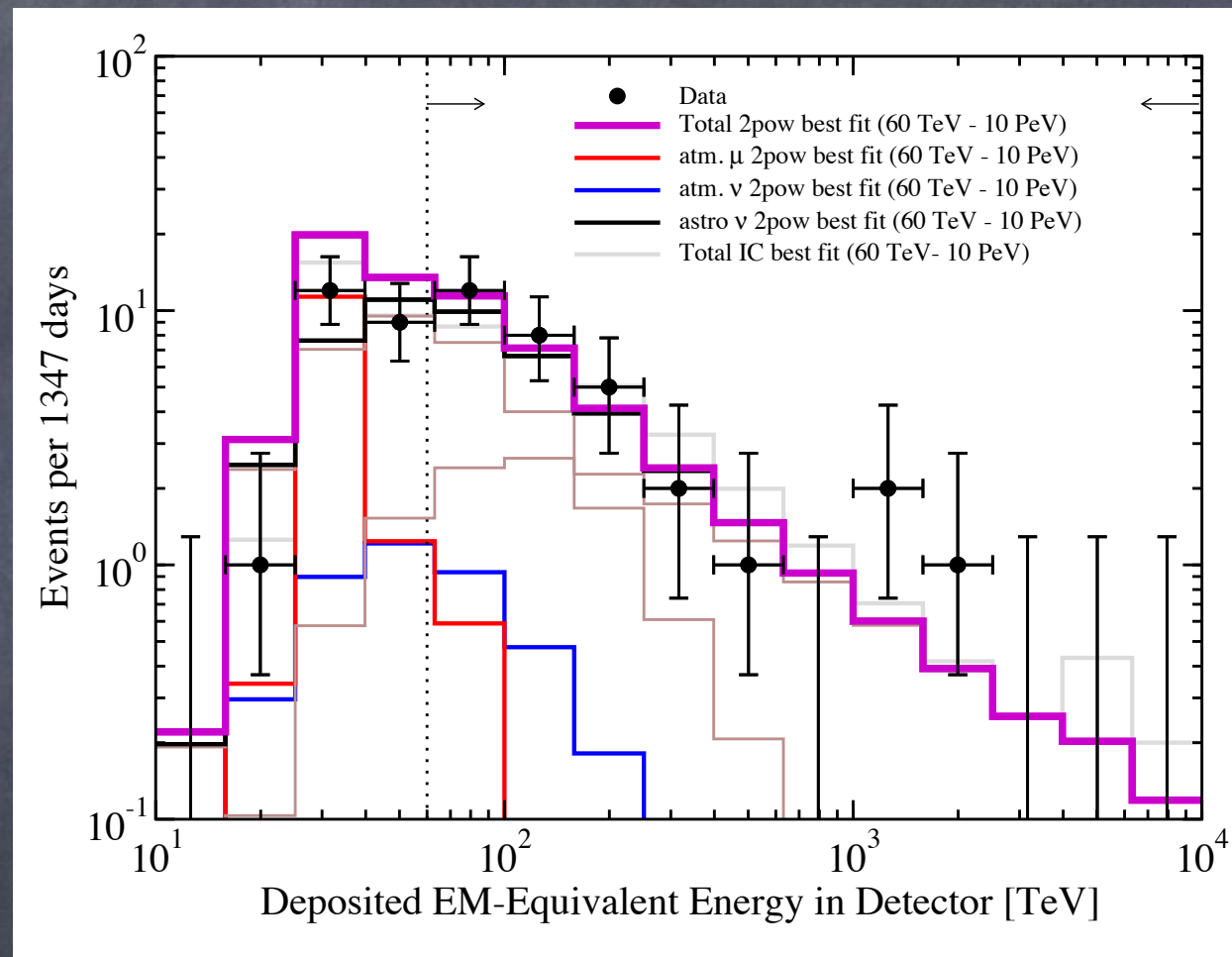
EVENT SPECTRA

4-YEAR DATA

POWER-LAW FLUX + DM DECAY



TWO POWER-LAW FLUX



$$E_v^2 \left. \frac{d\Phi}{dE_v} \right|_{BF} = 1.6 \times 10^{-8} \text{ GeV}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1} \text{ sr}^{-1} + \text{DM decay}$$

$$E_v^2 \left. \frac{d\Phi}{dE_v} \right|_{BF} = \left[13.8 \left(\frac{E_v}{100 \text{ TeV}} \right)^{-1.89} + 2.7 \left(\frac{E_v}{100 \text{ TeV}} \right)^{-0.25} \right] \times 10^{-8} \text{ GeV}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1} \text{ sr}^{-1}$$

P. Dí Bari, P. O. Ludl and SPR, JCAP 1611:044, 2016

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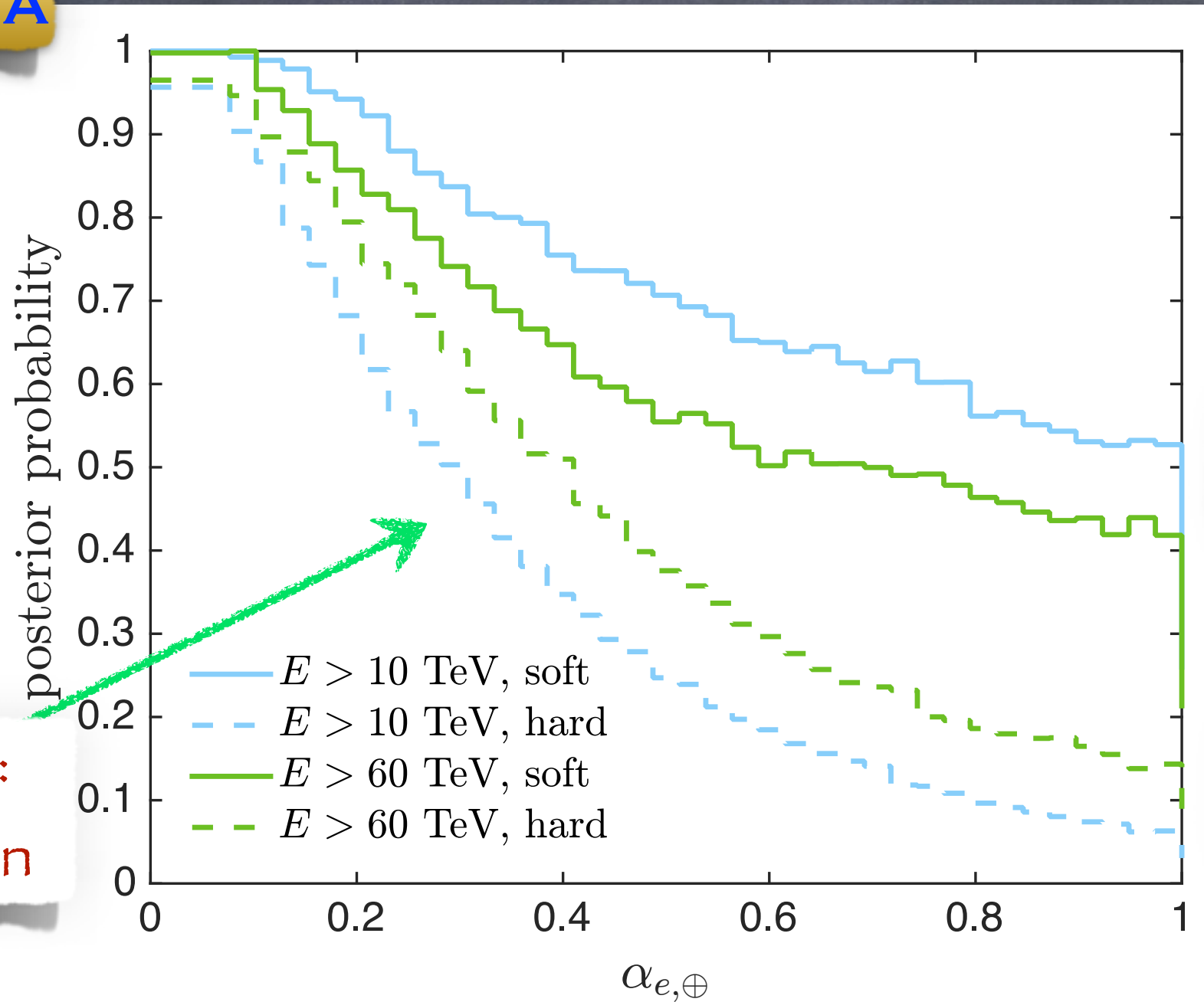
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TWO POWER-LAW FLAVOR

Assuming equal flavor fractions for ν_μ and ν_τ

4-YEAR DATA

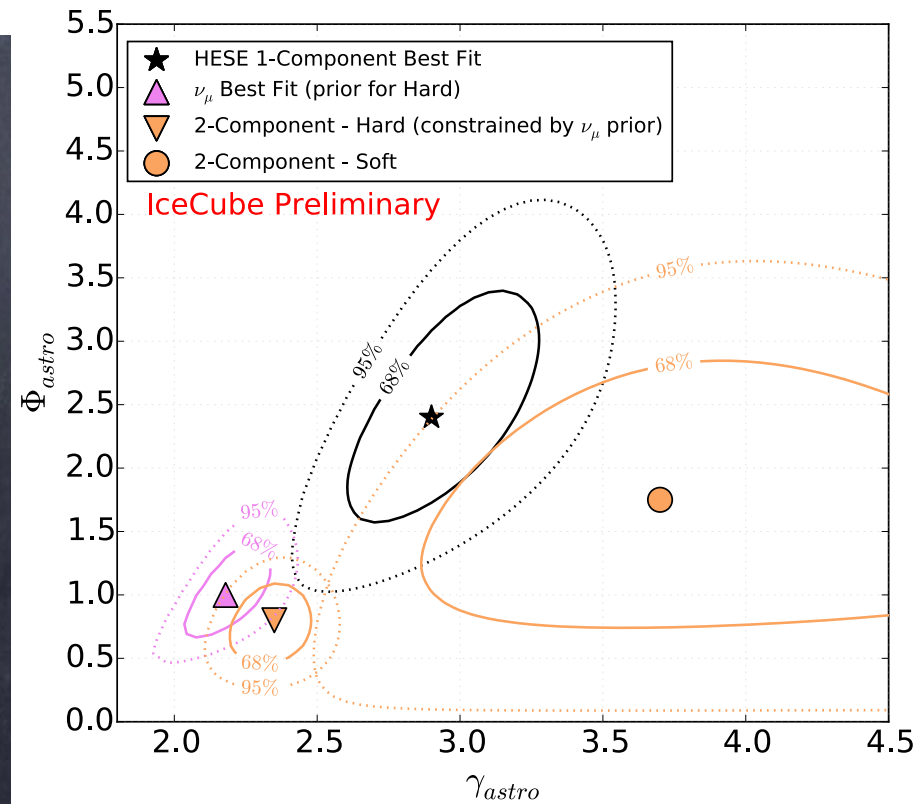
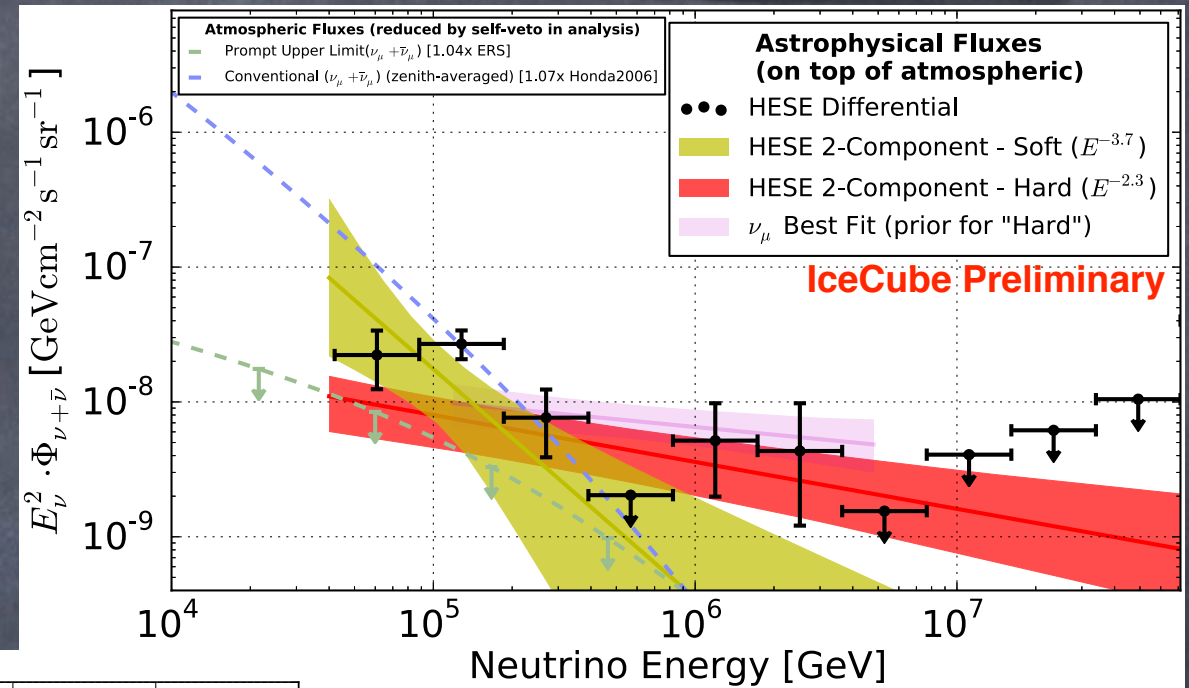
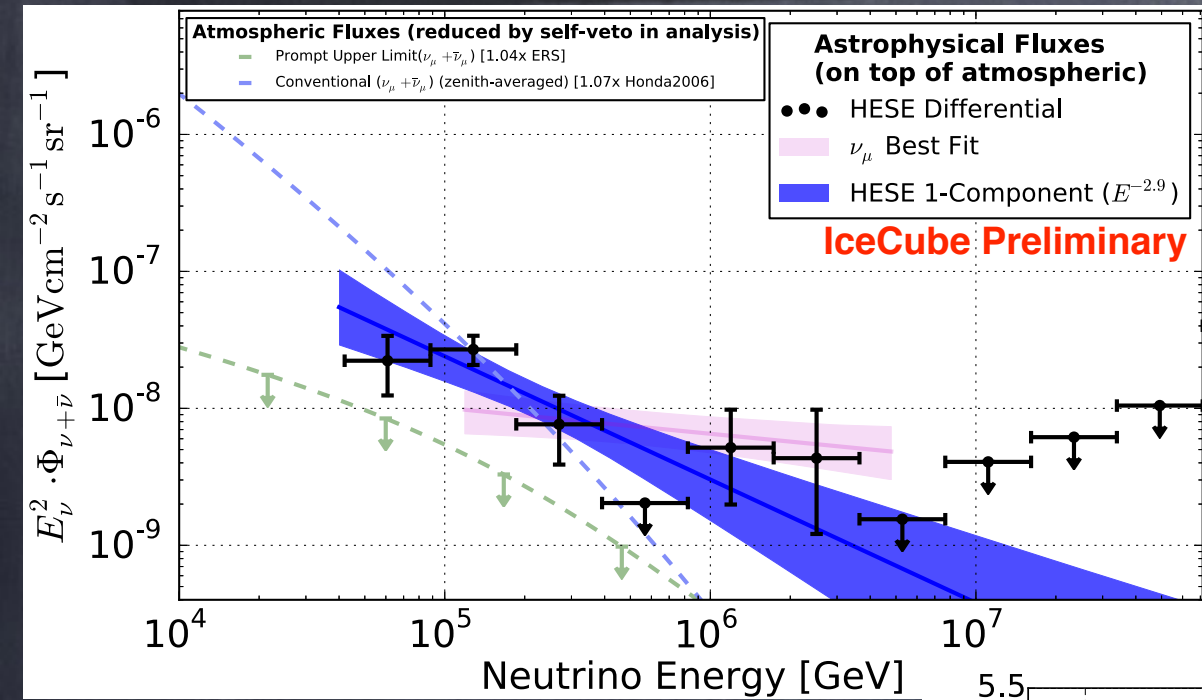


Hard component:
larger ν_μ fraction

A. C. Vincent, SPR and O. Mena, Phys. Rev. D94:023009, 2016

RECENT 6-YR HESE

Two power-law spectrum is just a bit better than a single power-law



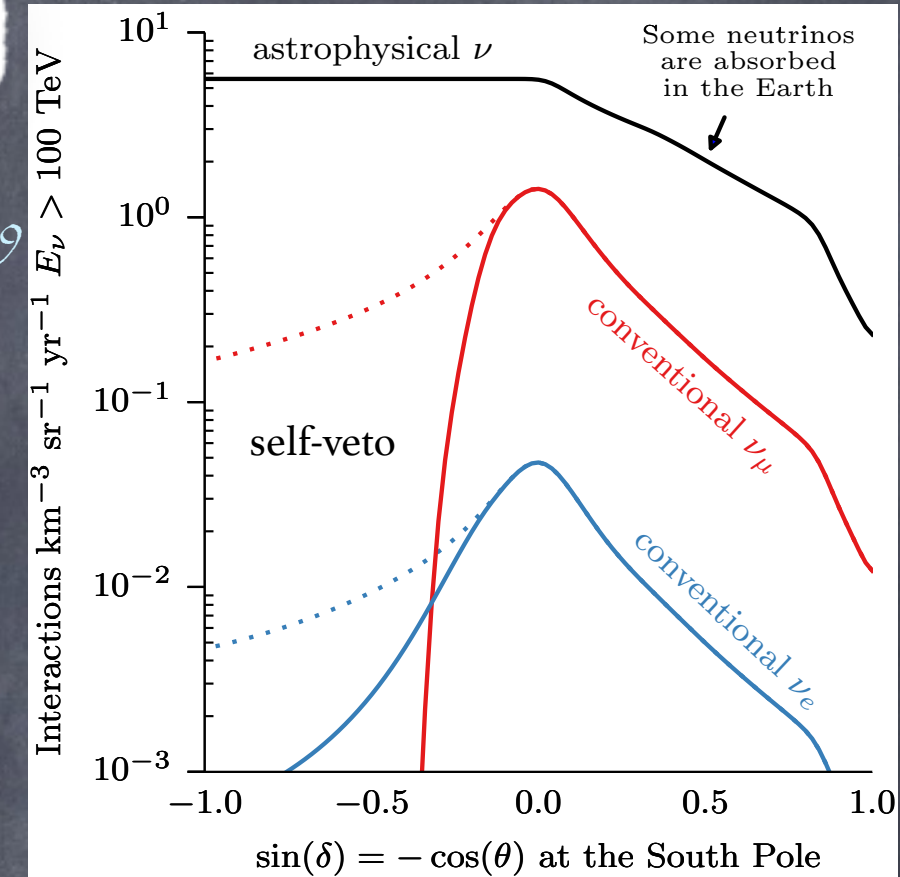
OTHER INPUTS THAT COULD AFFECT CURRENT ANALYSES

J. van Santen ICRC2017

atmospheric neutrino
self-veto uncertainties

Using SIBYLL 2.1 and DPMJET 2.55

S. Schönert, T. Gaisser, E. Resconi and O. Schulz, Phys. Rev. D79:043009, 2009
T. Gaisser, K. Jero, A. Karle, J. Van Santen, Phys. Rev. D90:023009, 2014



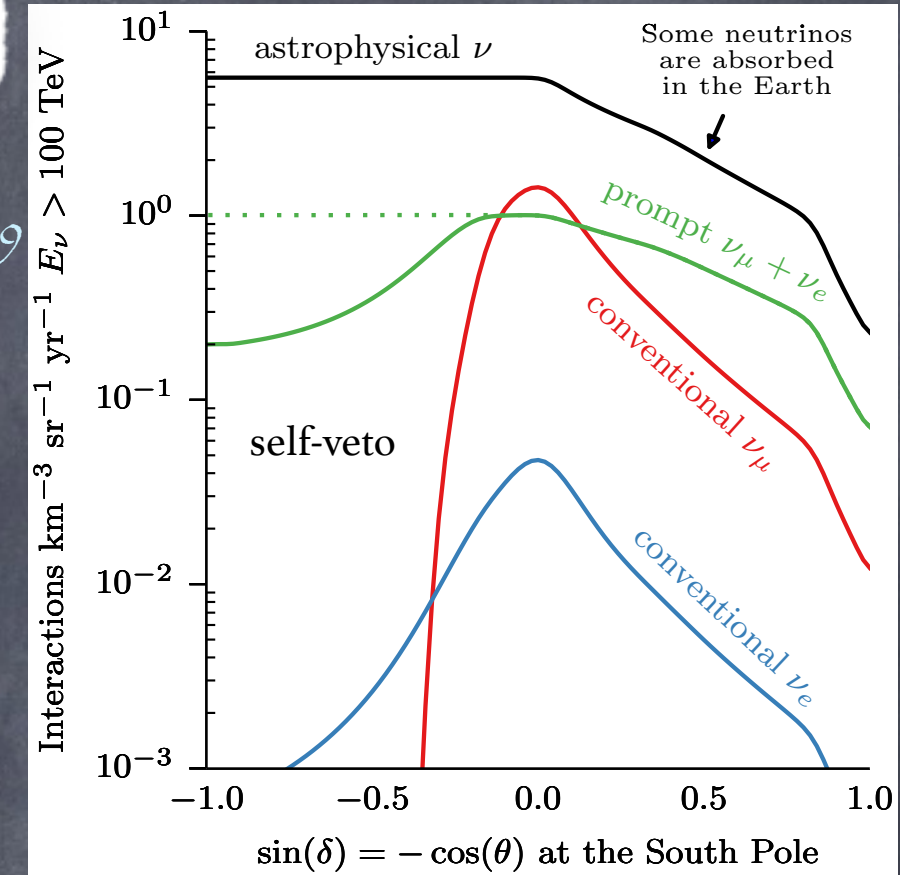
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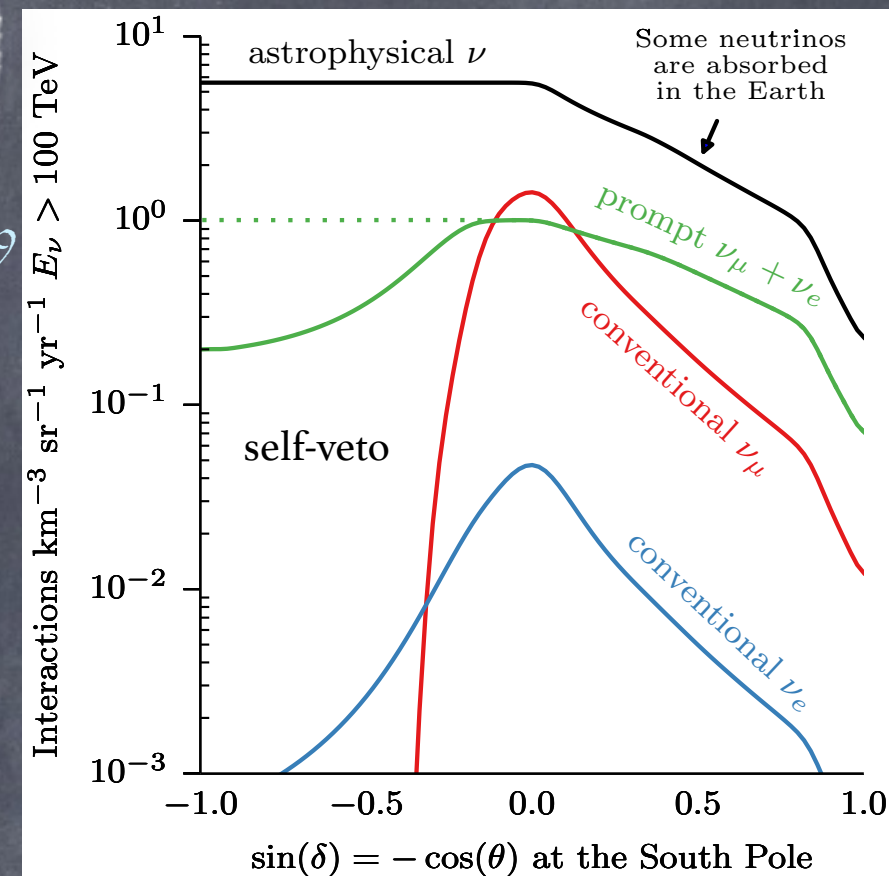
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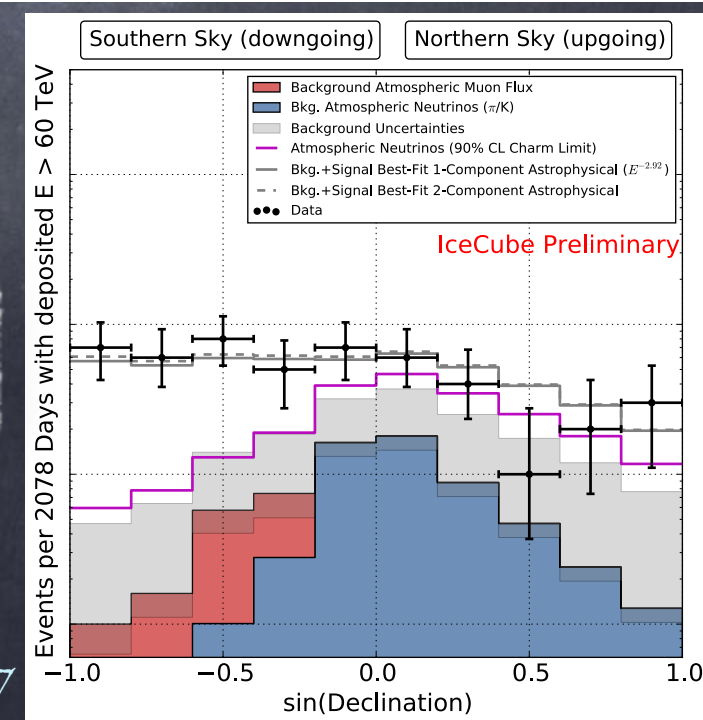
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incompatible with prompt neutrinos



C. Kopper, ICRC2017

On the high-energy IceCube neutrinos

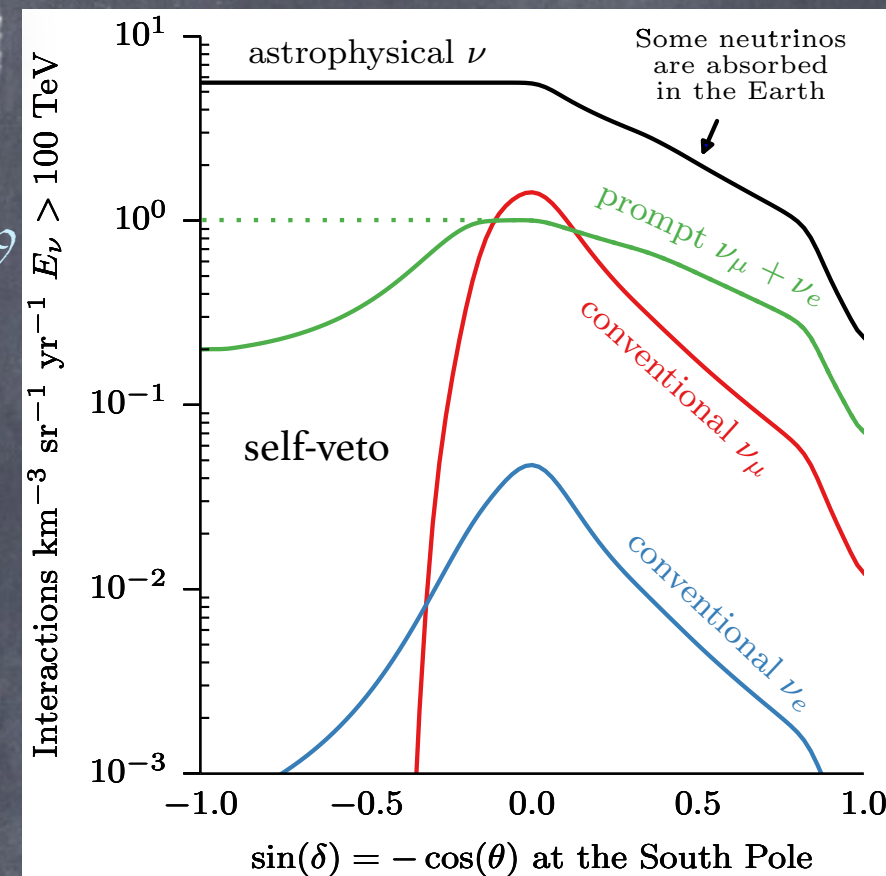
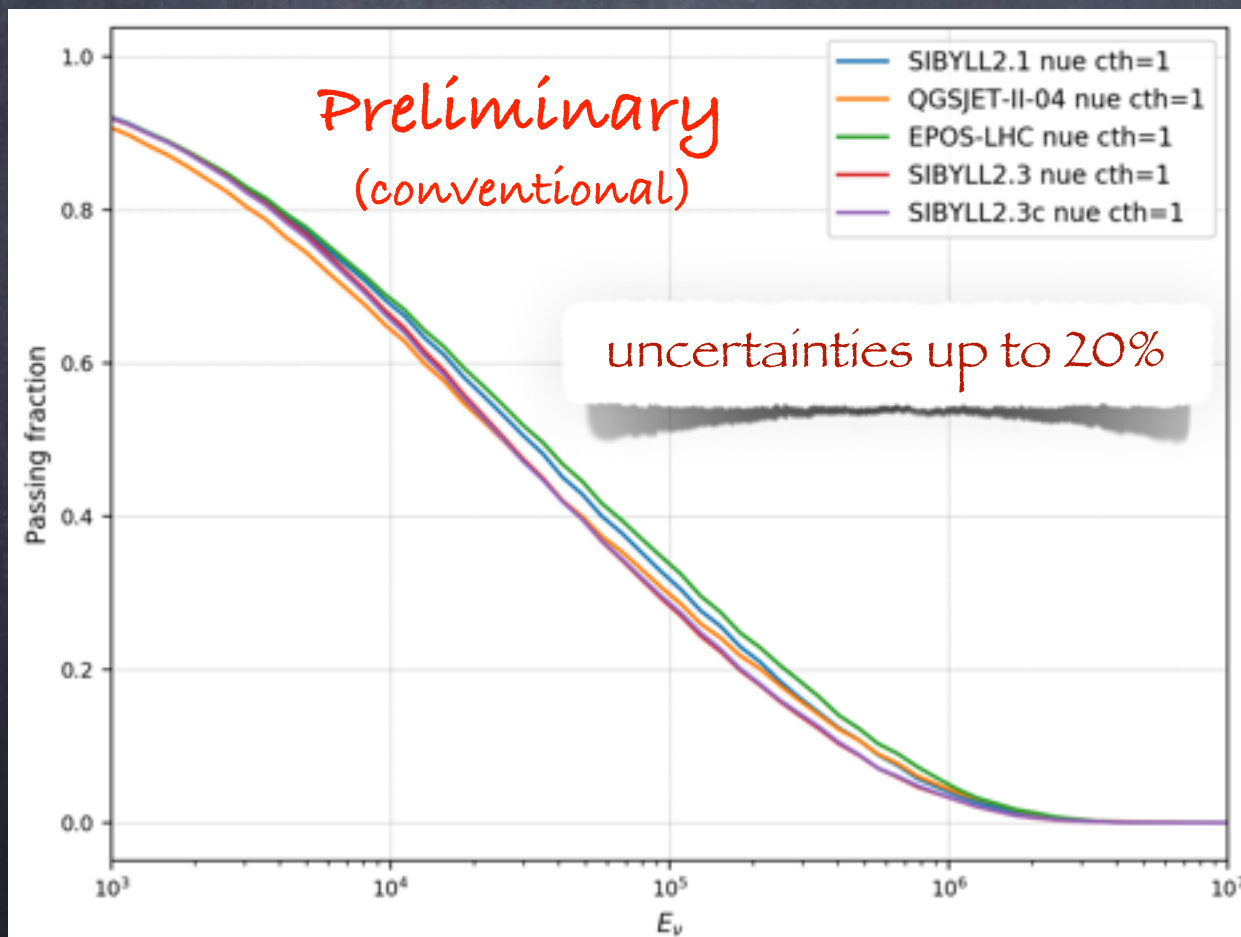
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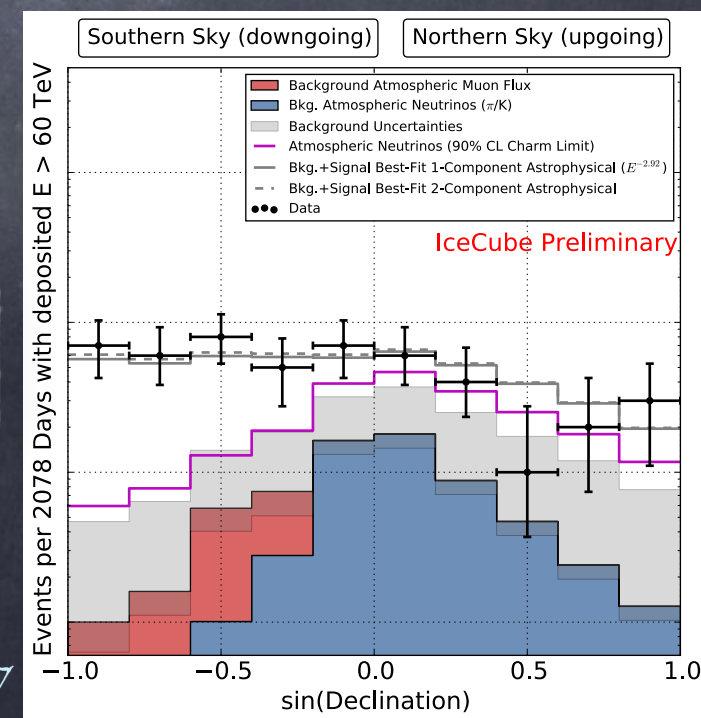
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 T. Gaisser, K. Jero, A. Karle, J. Van Santen, Phys. Rev. D90:023009, 2014



incompatible with prompt neutrinos



C. Argüelles, SPR, A. Schneider, L. Willie and T. Yuan, in preparation

C. Kopper, ICRC2017

On the high-energy IceCube neutrinos

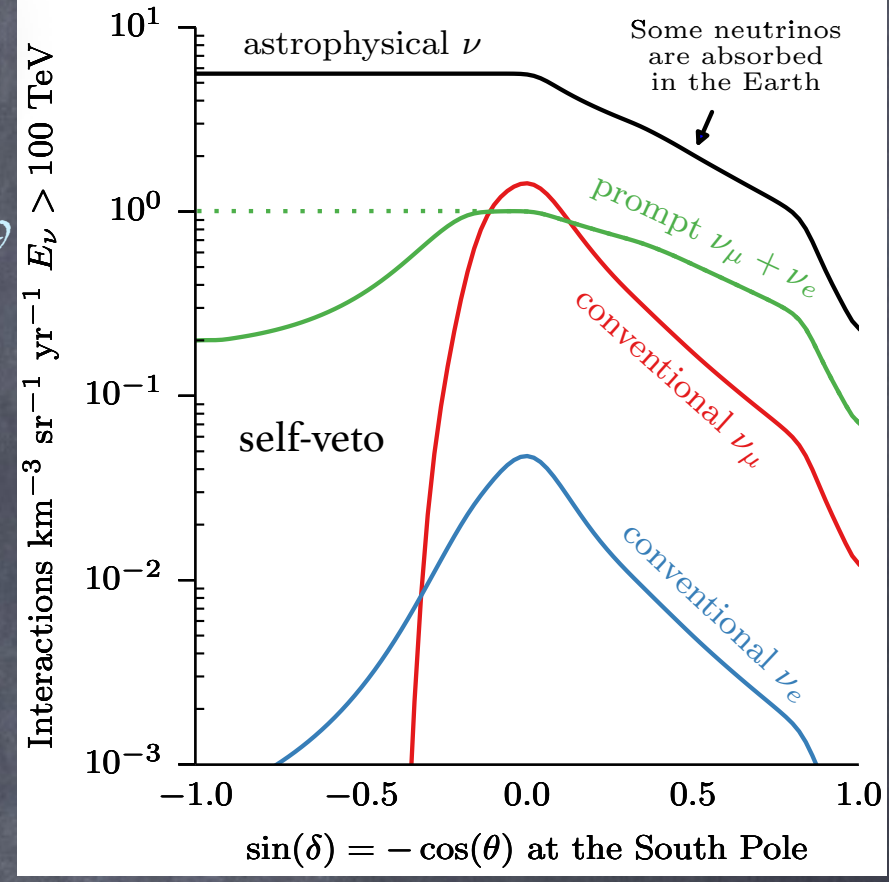
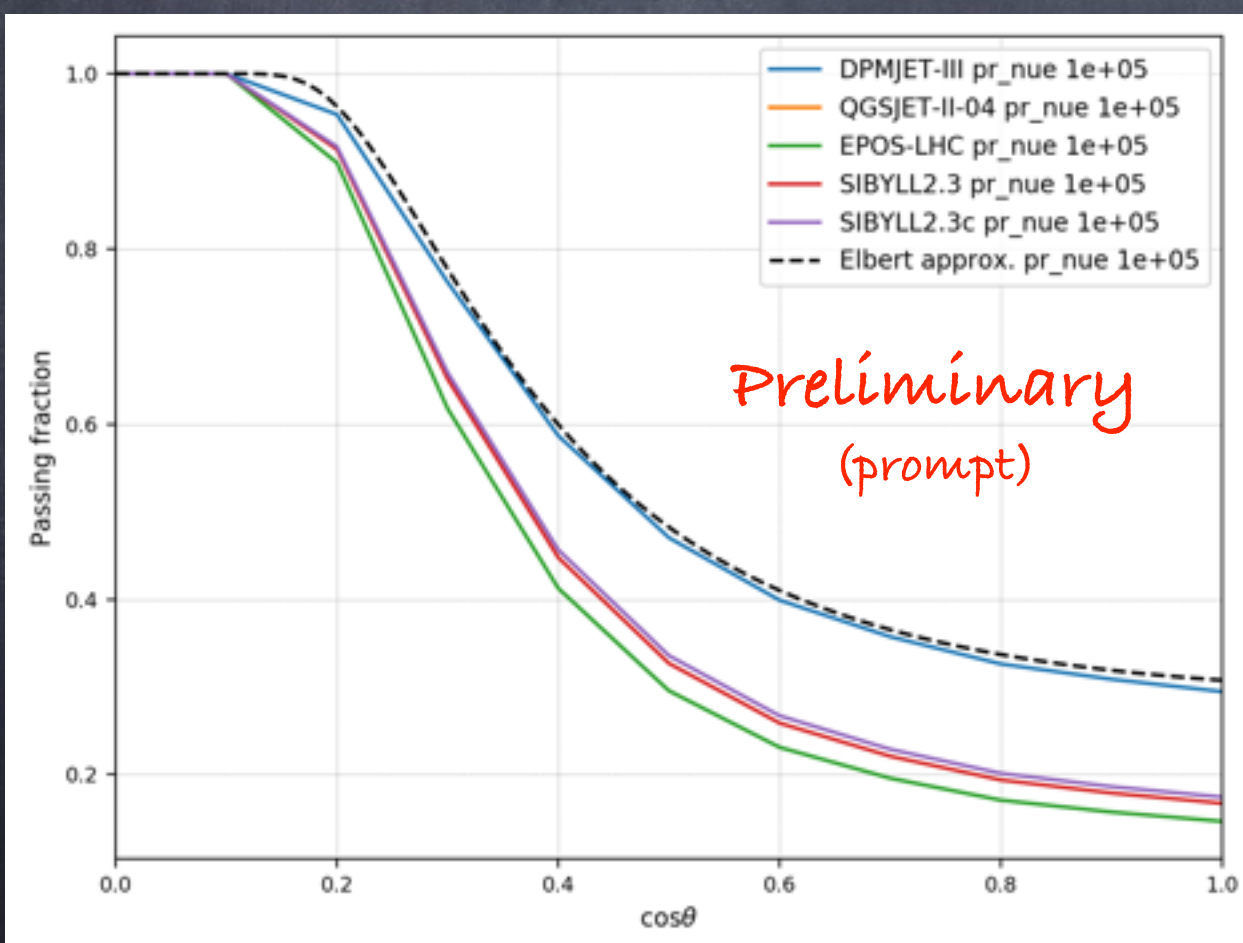
OTHER INPUTS THAT COULD AFFECT CURRENT ANALYSES

J. van Santen ICRC2017

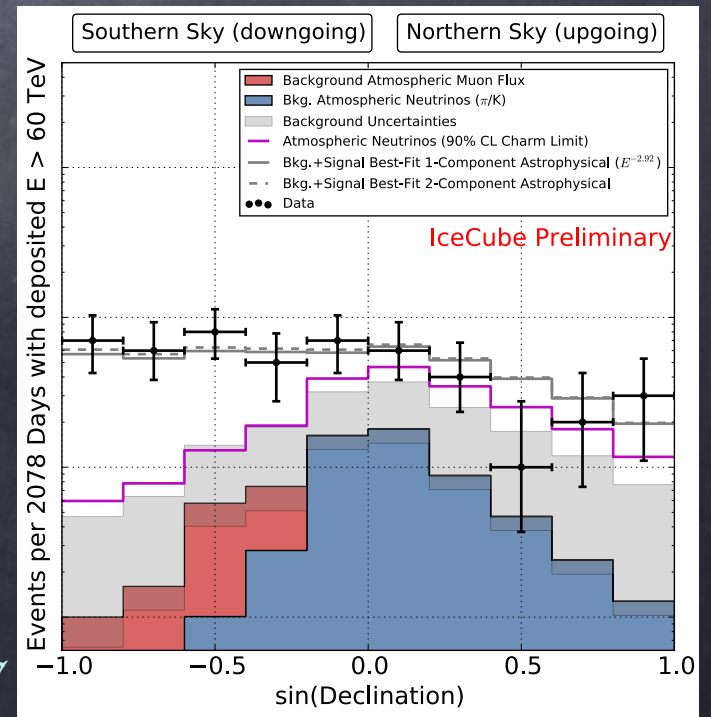
atmospheric neutrino self-veto uncertainties

Using SIBYLL 2.1 and DPMJET 2.55

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On the high-energy IceCube neutrinos

OTHER INPUTS THAT COULD AFFECT CURRENT ANALYSES

track mis-ID parameterization

So far only provided as a constant fraction: 30% for HESE

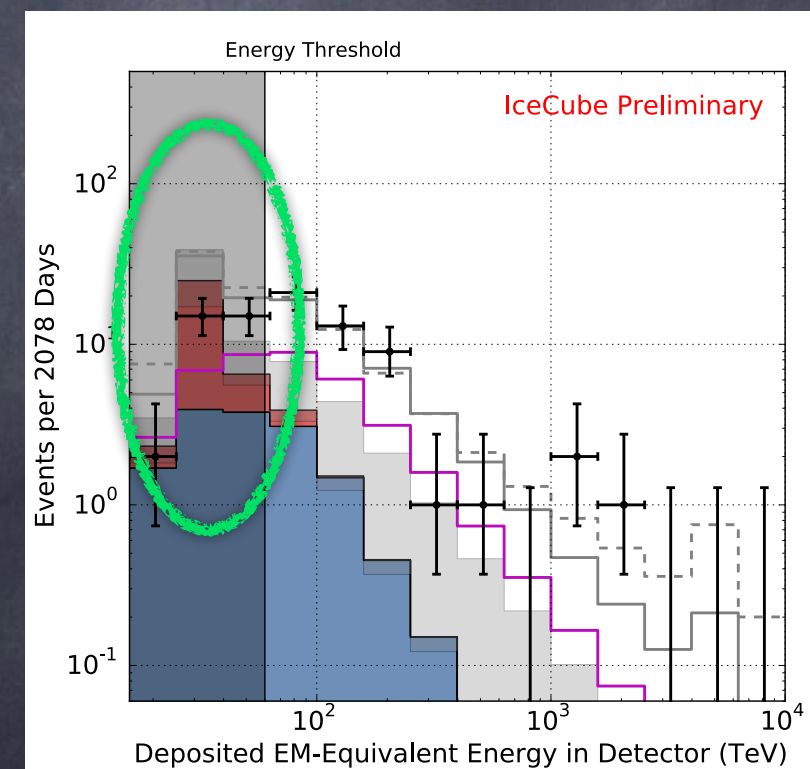
M. G. Aartsen et al. [Icecube Collaboration],
Phys. Rev. Lett. 114:171102, 2015

it must be energy-dependent: it affects energy distributions

SPR, A. Vincent and O. Mena, in preparation

atmospheric muon background

too large normalization as compared to observed events



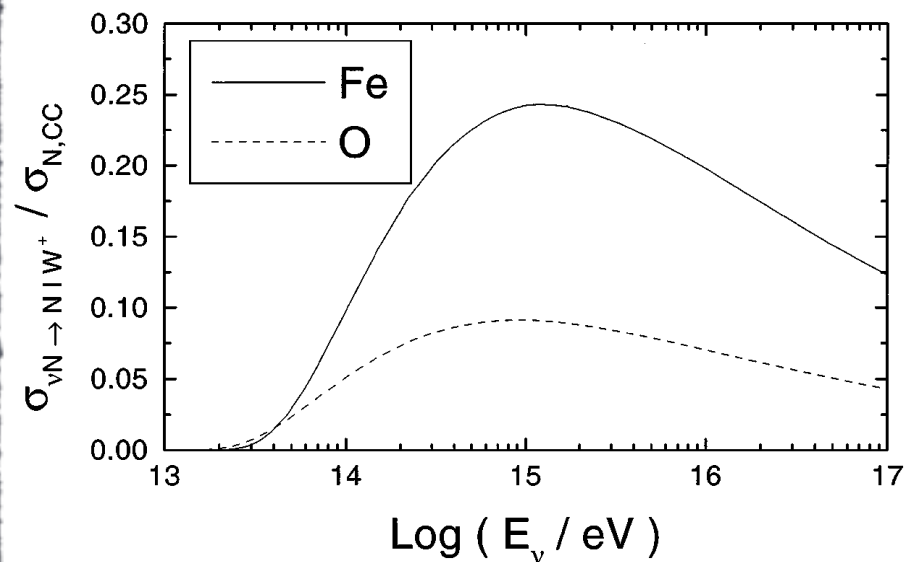
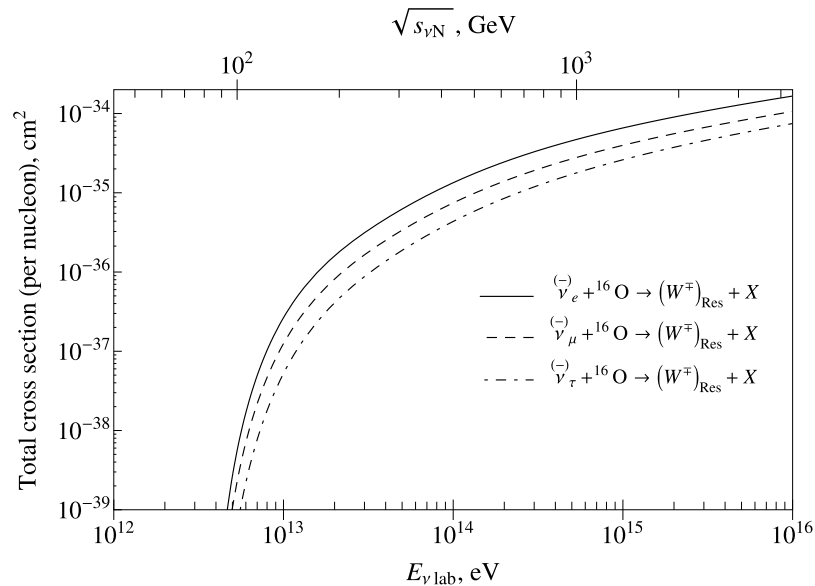
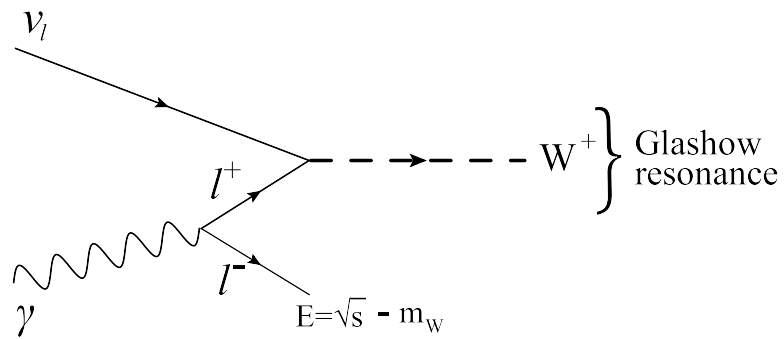
C. Kopper [IceCube Collaboration], PoS (ICRC2017) 981

On the high-energy IceCube neutrinos

OTHER INPUTS THAT COULD AFFECT CURRENT ANALYSES

D. Seckel, Phys. Rev. Lett. 80:900, 1998
 I. Alikhanov, Phys. Lett. 741:295, 2015;
 Phys. Lett. 756:247, 2016

*extra SM contribution:
 Hidden Glashow resonance*



*up to 10% effect in detection
 >10% effect in absorption in the Earth
 effect in the energy and flavor distributions*

CONCLUSIONS

- Flavor triangle is important for searches of exotic physics: degeneracies with energy spectrum
- Potential issues in current data (assuming an unbroken power-law):
 - Low-energy excess... multicomponent flux? very soft spectrum?
 - Deficit of electron antineutrinos $E > \text{PeV}$... spectral break? flavor?
 - Tension with through-going muon data... multicomponent flux?
- Other inputs could affect the results: self-veto uncertainties, track misID energy dependence, muon background, hidden Glashow resonance contribution

4-YEAR DATA

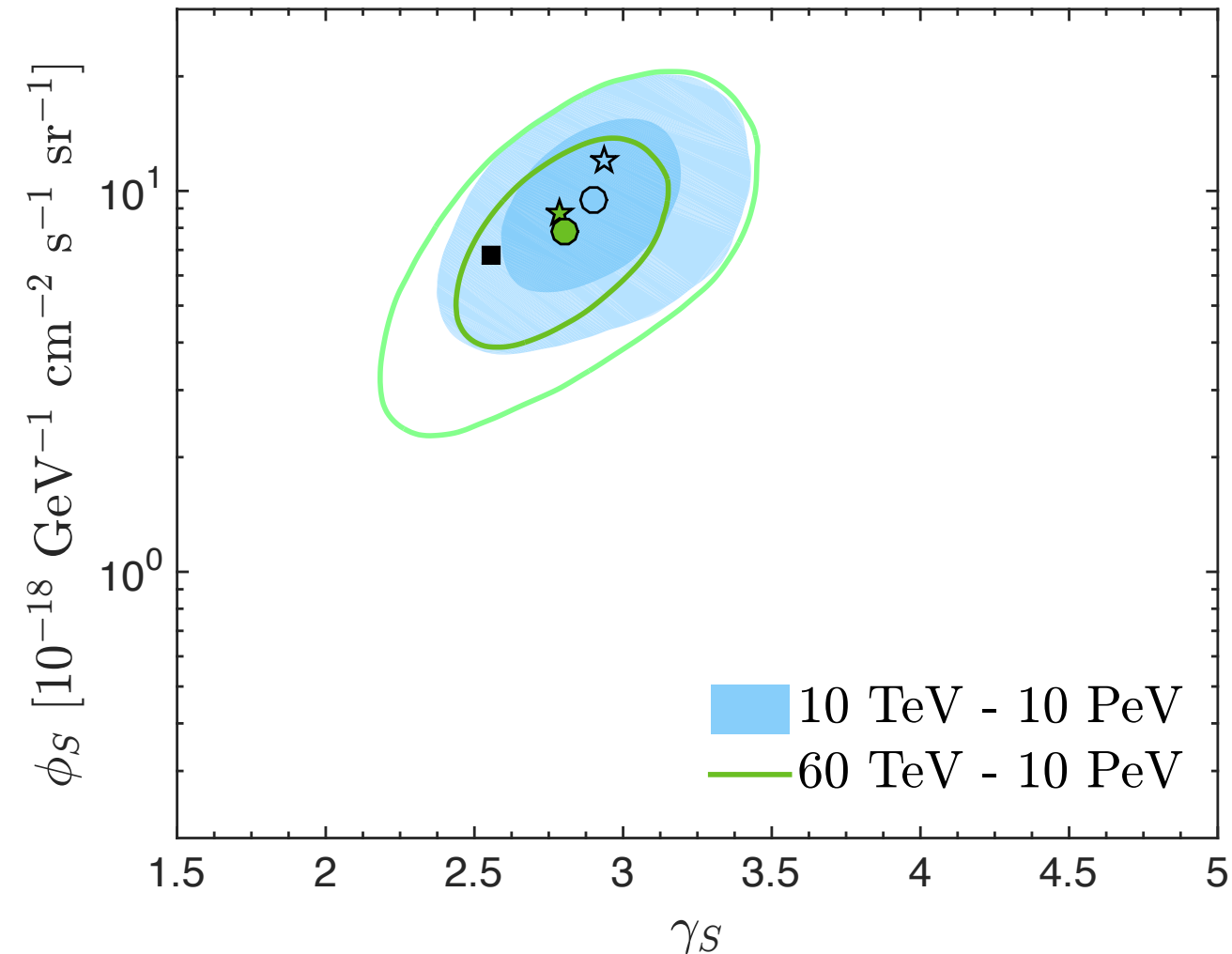
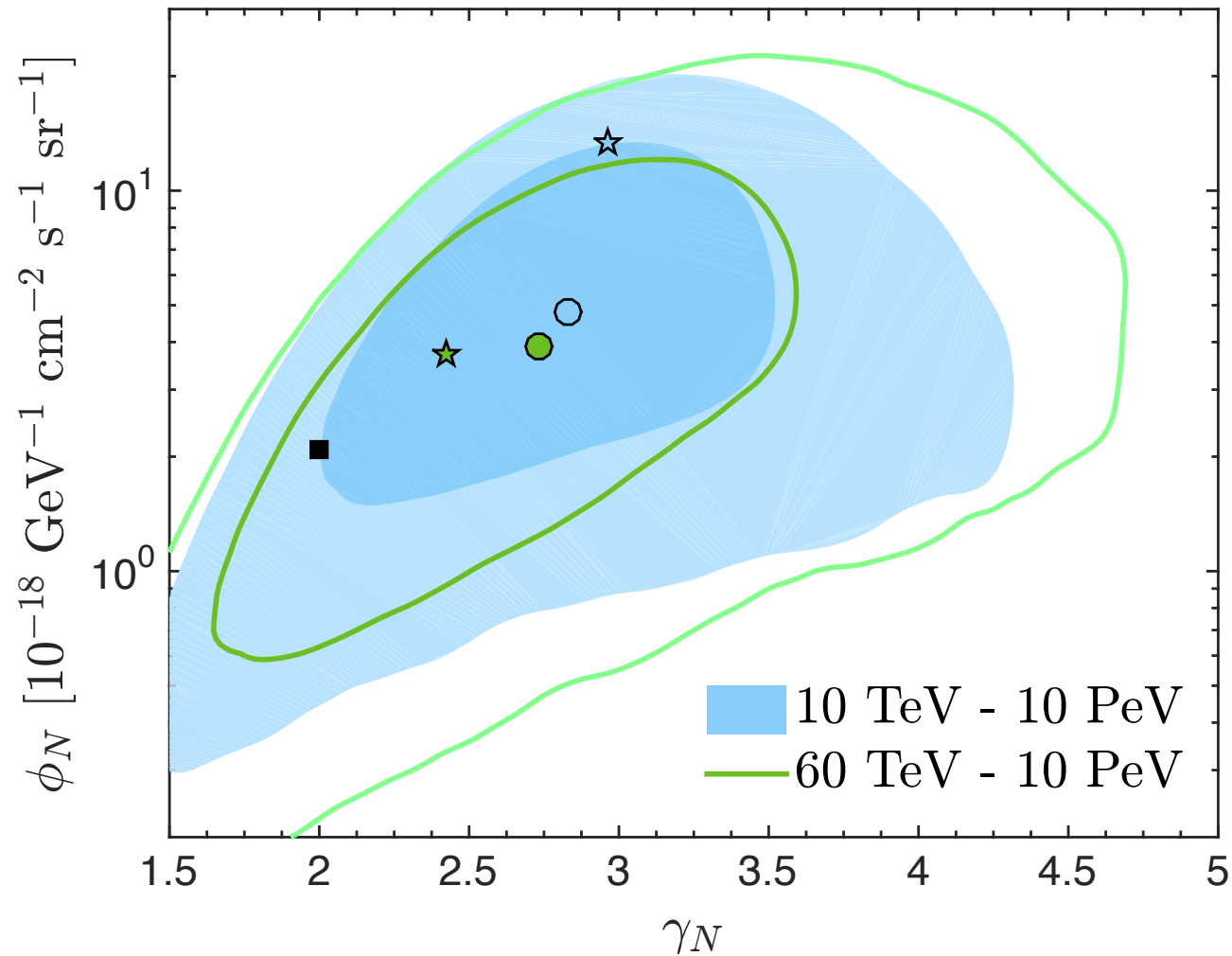
UP/DOWN

Adding through-going muons: harder spectrum from the North at 1.1σ

M. G. Aartsen et al. [Icecube Collaboration], *Astrophys. J.* 809:98, 2015

UPGOING NEUTRINOS

DOWNGOING NEUTRINOS



A. C. Vincent, SPR and O. Mena, *Phys. Rev. D* 94:023009, 2016

4-YEAR DATA

UP/DOWN

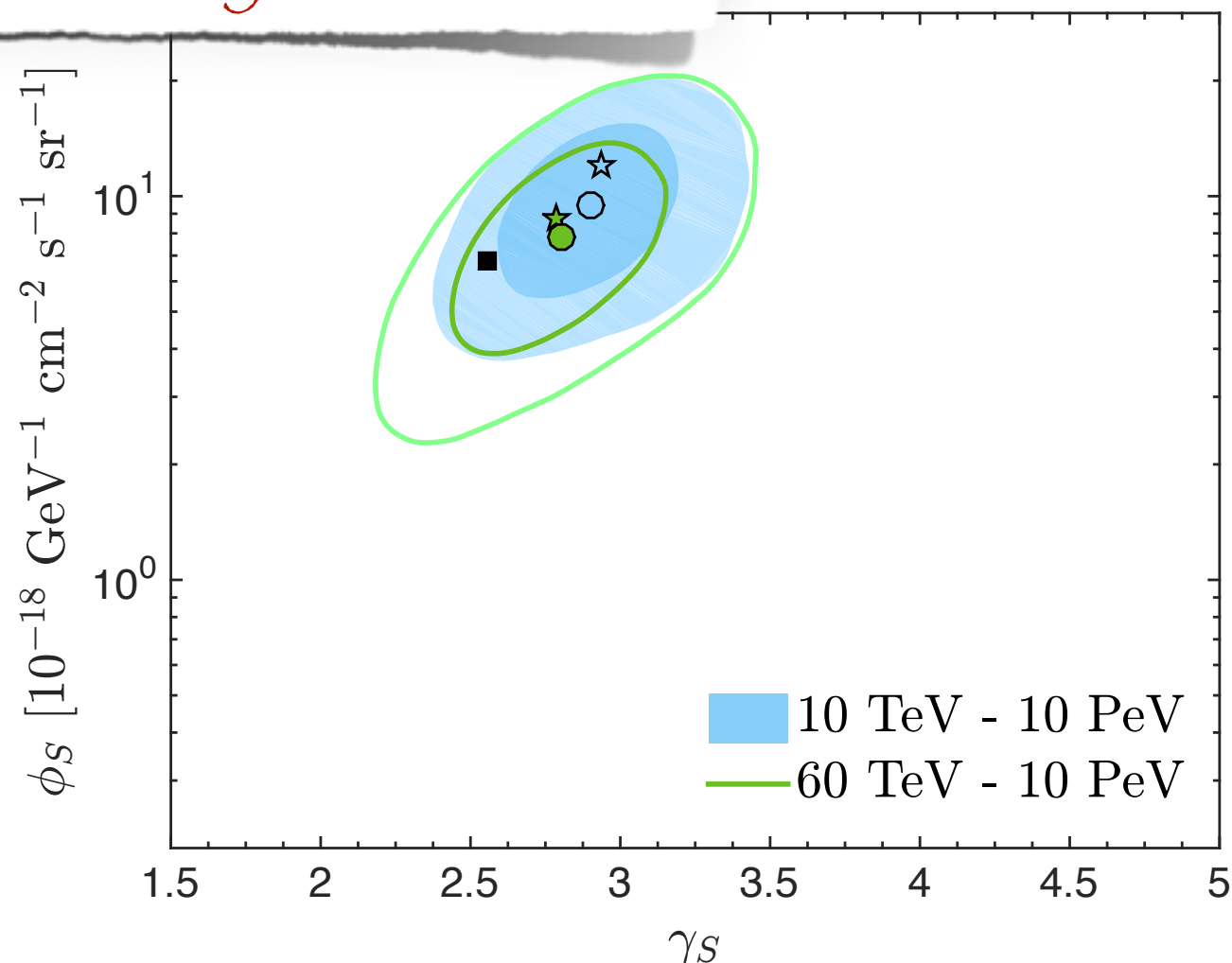
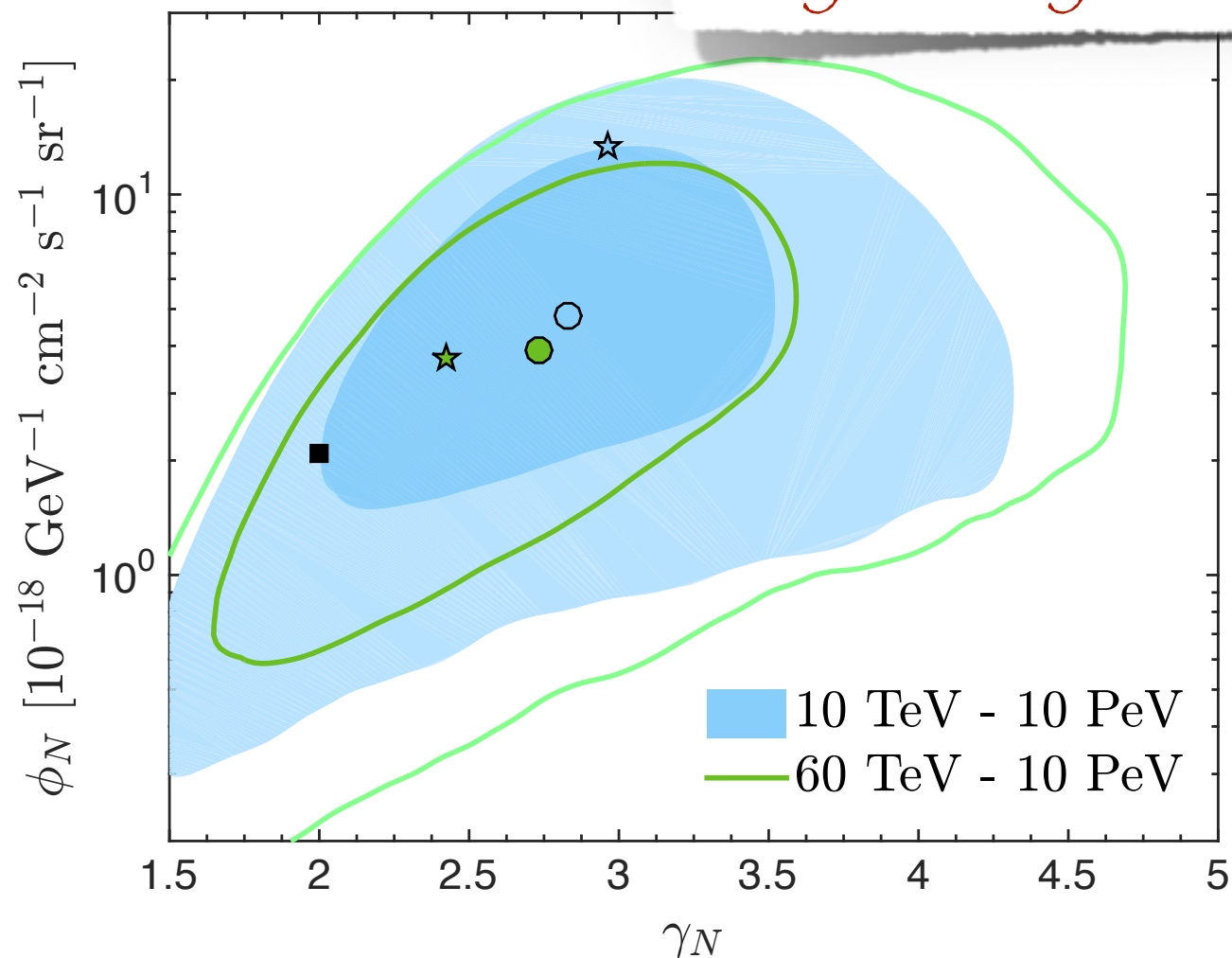
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UPGOING NEUTRINOS

DOWNGOING NEUTRINOS

Asymmetry not driven by HESE data



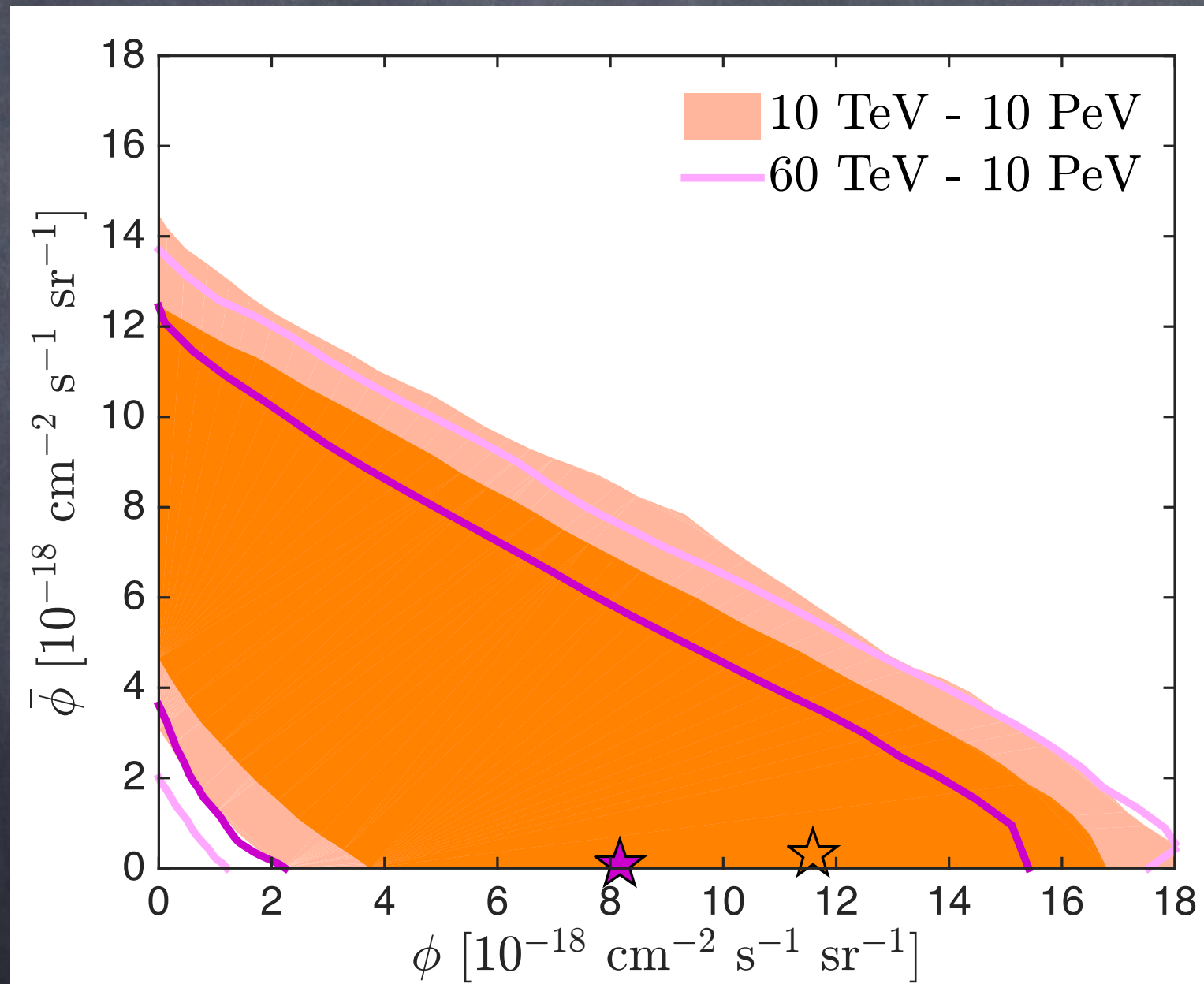
A. C. Vincent, SPR and O. Mena, *Phys. Rev. D* 94:023009, 2016

NEUTRINO/ANTINEUTRINO

Important with higher statistics

H. Nunokawa, B. Panes and R. Z. Funchal, JCAP 1610:036, 2016

4-YEAR DATA



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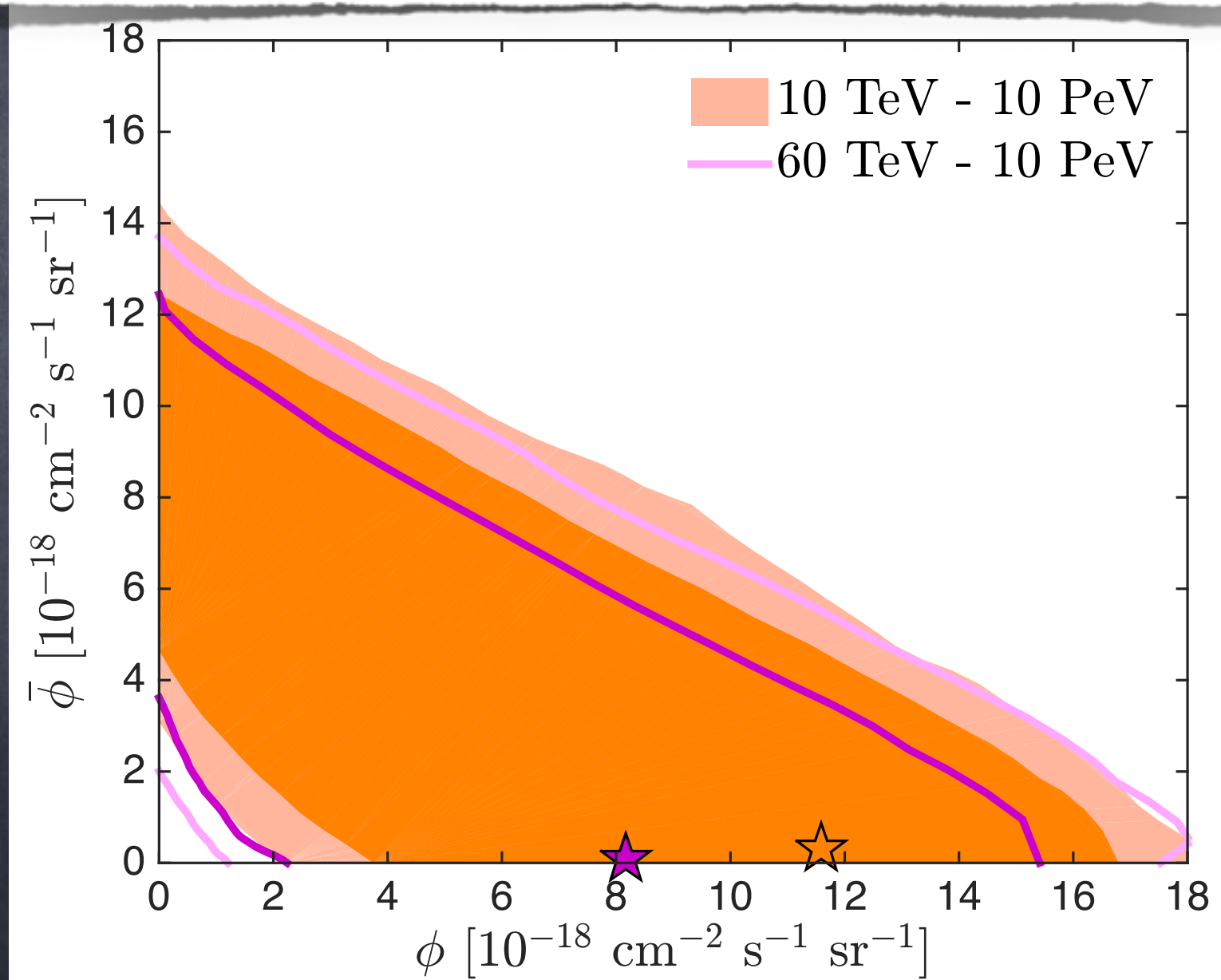
NEUTRINO/ANTINEUTRINO

Important with higher statistics

H. Nunokawa, B. Panes and R. Z. Funchal, JCAP 1610:036, 2016

4-YEAR DATA

Strong correlation: too early to reach any conclusion



A. C. Vincent, SPR and O. Mena, Phys. Rev. D94:023009, 2016